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Syn 7.67.23

A TESTIMONY TO THE Plainness & Simplicity OF THE TRUTH

As it is in JESUS

BIBL. CANT. ACAD.

With something concerning *Baptism* and the *Supper* of the *Lord*, with a Discovery of the antient Foundation of Faith and Hope; with a Warning to all Rebellious People to turn to the Lord before the Day of sore *Calamity* come upon them.

Also, A tender Invitation unto all that feel Desires in their Hearts after the Lord to come to the Living Substance, out of the Figures and Shadows.

With a Warning to all that Despise and Vilifie the LIGHT, that they may cease from their Hard Speeches against it, lest they fall into that Great Sin which is Unpardonable, *Matth.* 3. 2, 3.

[illegible] who after a long Travail in Sorrow through the darkness of [illegible] Apostacy, is by the Arm of God's Salvation brought to the [illegible] the Lord, which is Glad-tidings to his Soul, called by [illegible] RICHARD SAMBLE. of Cornwall

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[illegible] of this World come, now shall the Prince of this World [illegible] Christ Jesus, who was lifted up from the Earth, is revealed in Spirit, to draw all men after him, John 12. 31, 32.

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A Teſtimony to the Plainneſs and Simplicity of the Truth *as it is in Jeſus, &c.*

GIVE Ear ye Inhabitants of the Earth, and all ye profeſſing People every where, who are only in the outſide Profeſſion of God and Chriſt Jeſus, drawing near to him with the Mouth and Lips, but inwardly are ſeparated from him, as backſliding *Iſrael* in old time, *Iſa.* 29.13. *Mat.* 15.18. This unto you is the Teſtimony of the Spirit of the Lord, The Glorious Day of God is dawned, and the True Light is come, the Sun of Righteouſneſs is riſen, which is the Glorious Antient Light, and Power of the Everlaſting God (by which all your Profeſſions are clearly ſeen, which tryes your Ground, and fathoms all your Comprehenſions) which was before the World was, or ever Tranſgreſſion had place, or being in Mankind, and before old *Adam* was, who fell from that Life, Peace and Heavenly Image he was created in, and before the Fig-leaves were ſown together (in the fall) to cover their Nakedneſs, was Chriſt the Light, Life and Power, by which all things were made and created, whoſe Out going hath been from Everlaſting, who is unchangeable and unalterable throughout all Ages and Generations: Chriſt Jeſus is the certain Foundation, the Life and Joy of the Soul, before the Fall; the Reprover and Condemner of ſinful man by his Spirit and Light in the Fall; the Redeemer of Mankind out of the Fall; and the Life, Peace, Joy and Comfort of the Soul in the Reſtoration, the Way to the Father out of all faln Wayes and dark Paths. Into which holy Way of Light, Life and Salvation hath God gathered a Remnant to behold the Beauty and Glory of the Feet of him that brings Glad-tidings of Good

things, who is the certain, plain and inelligible Messenger that is of God, whose Ministry is from Heaven, that Preaches deliverance to the Captives, and opens the Prison to them that are bound, *Isa.* 61. 1. whose shining Light, Glory and Beauty gives a clear discovery of all unsettled Foundations, which shall be shaken by the Power of his Heavenly appearance, and all sinfull Earthly Professions shall reel to and fro, and (like *Moab*) shall be emptied untill they come to nothing, and be no more; for the Day of shaking and treading down is come and coming from the Lord God, wherein all sinfull Professions shall be as a Figg-Tree when she is shaken of a mighty Wind, and the sinful Fruit brought forth by sinfull Professors, will fall as untimely Figs from the Fig-Tree: For the Lord is risen against all sinfull Professions, under what denomination soever, to the end that Righteousness may spring and Holiness bud, and shoot forth its Branches as a Tree planted by the Waters, and that its Freshness & Greenness, which a little despised People have beheld, may never wither or decay out of our Land more; but the Earth shall be full of Righteousness, as it shall be replenished with the Knowledge of the Lord, as the Waters cover the Sea, *Isa.* 11. 9. And to this end hath our God called us to proclaim the Everlasting Day, in which he will perform the purpose of his Heart upon all deceitfull pretences and shews of Religion, which are unrighteous and corrupt, (which deceive the Souls of the Children of men) by which his righteous Soul hath long been grieved, and therefore hath the Lord God whet his glittering Sword, and his Hand hath taken hold on Judgment, that Vengeance may be rendred to his Adversaries, and they that hate him shall be rewarded.

Surely Gods Controversie this Day is with the Nations that profess *Christianity*, more then with the *Heathen*, because they in Words profess that they know God, but in Works deny him, and are found in the Abominations of those that in all Ages grieved the Lord: For when I call to mind the dayes that are gone and past, and remember the Years of antient times, how the Love and Mercy of the Lord reached to *Israel* of Old, and how his Glory broke forth amongst them in *David's* and in *Solomon's* time;

time; and then was *Israel* not divided in the dayes of their Obedience and Subjection to the Lord, but were a noble Vine, wholly of the right Seed, which God brought out of *Egypt* to possess the Land of *Canaan*, and were planted by the Hand of the Lord, who reproved the *Heathenish* Kings that rose up against them by the way, saying, *Touch not mine Anointed, nor do my Prophets no harm*, Psal. 105. 14, 15. And they became as a Vineyard, and were a People to the praise of God, who had the injoyment of his presence to fight their Battels for them, who caused Terror and Fear to fall upon their Enemies, untill they Rebelled against him, and set up Idolatry amongst them, who went after the Sins of *Jeroboam*, in whose dayes the Tribes of *Jacob* were divided, 1 *King*. 12. 28, 29, 30. *Judah* from *Israel*, and *Israel* from *Judah*; and here the Devil had his end, in as much as *Israel* departed from the Lord, he was ready to harden their Hearts more and more to keep them from returning to the Lord again; and here *Israel* lost that Glory that from God appeared amongst them in the dayes of *David* and *Solomon*, and so dark sorrowfull times came on, and great Troubles upon the Church in the dayes of some of those wicked Kings that succeeded them, and a dark Night overtook their Prophets and Rulers, who lost the inward sense of the Spirit of the Lord: yet in these times they retained the Profession of God in the Observation of Days, New-Moons, set Feasts and Sabboths, but slew the Prophets of the Lord, that were sent to them to turn them to that Glory which their fore-Fathers were pertakers of, & not to preach the invented things (which Man in his carnal polluted Wit, Wisdom and Reason had invented and made in the times of Darkness and Ignorance, who knew not the out-goings of *Jacobs* God) but purely to preach that Life and Power of God, whith is the Foundation that stands forever. And these Servants of the true God met with little favour or acceptance with their Brethren, the Rebellious *Jews*, but cold entertainment, who were cast out and wandred up and down in Deserts, and in Caves of the Earth, who were Tempted, were slain with the Sword, were Sawn asunder, of whom the World was not worthy, *Heb.* 11. 37, 38. And in these Dark times of *Israel's* Rebellion, the Daughters

Daughters of *Sion* followed the Vanities of the *Heathen*, and walked with ſtretched-forth Necks, making a tinkling with their Feet, mincing as they did go, and had their round Tires like the Moon, and Ear Rings, and Noſe-Jewels, and ſuch like Vanities, which were for the Day of the Lords Wrath and Indignation, which he determined to bring upon all the bravery of their Tinkling Ornaments, *Iſa.* 3. 16, 17, 18, 24. And *Iſrael* having ſo loſt themſelves, the Prophet unto whom God gave his Word, proclaimed after this manner, *Give ear O Heavens, and hearken O Earth, I have nouriſhed and brought up Children, ſaith the Lord, and they have rebelled againſt me; the Ox knows his owner, and the Aſs his Maſters Crib, but* Iſrael *doth not know, my People doth not conſider*, Iſa. 1. 2, 3. And this was the ſorrow from day to day of the Prophets of God, to ſee Iniquity to abound, and People laden with Sin, the whole Head ſick, and the whole Heart faint, from the Crown of the Head to the Sole of the Foot, full of Sores and Bruiſes, no ſoundneſs at all in it, *Iſa.* 1. 5, 6. And thus the backſliding *Iſraelites* in thoſe dayes loſt the glory of God, through rebelling againſt his Spirit; and the true Church became few in number, becauſe of the over-ſpreadings of Corruptions and Deceit in the Profeſſors of Religion, and the Daughter of *Sion* that was enlarged in Glory, Beauty and Virtues, and honoured with the Bleſſing of the increaſe of Children, was left as a Cottage in a Vineyard, and as a Lodge in a Garden of Cucumbers, as a beſieged City, *Iſa.* 1. 8. and then were peoples Hearts ſet againſt the appearance of God, and the Children begotten of the right Seed were as ſigns and wonders in *Iſrael*, Iſa. 8. 18. And therefore being in a Profeſſion of God, and rebellious againſt him, they were his greateſt Enemies, and his Controverſie was with them becauſe of all their Abominations; as the Lord ſaid, *You have I known of all the Families of the Earth, therefore will I puniſh you for your Iniquities*, Amos 3. 2. And thus *Iſrael* departed from the Lord, and loſt the benefit of the gift of the Law, and the Adoption, and the Ordinances, whoſe were the Fathers, and of whom as pertaining to the Fleſh Chriſt came, *Rom.* 9. 4, 5. So that neither their Sacrifices nor Offerings, nor the Literal expounding

of

of the Words of the Law by their Prieſts unto them did profit them, nor the coming of Chriſt in the Fleſh, becauſe they reſted only in the Signs and Figures, and ſo were altogether taken up with the Viſibles and Shadows; and this their Life and Reſt was in the fallen Wiſdom and polluted Reaſon which is driven out of Paradiſe, and the flaming Sword turns every way againſt it, and this they made uſe of to divine Lyes in the Name of the Lord, which Wiſdom is from below, and thereby they did not know the Diſpenſation of that time and ſeaſon, wherein the great Saviour of the World was manifeſted, but they Crucified him and Hanged him on a Tree, *Acts* 10. 39. And ſo left the benefit of the Salvation of God, and the glorious Miniſtration of Life, Grace and Truth, which came by Jeſus Chriſt, *John* 1. 4.

Now after this the people called *Chriſtians* ariſeth and comes forth to poſſeſs the common Salvation which God hath revealed in Chriſt Jeſus, and from amongſt the *Gentiles* comes up a people to have the benefit of a Saviour. In the day of the Revelation and Diſpenſation of the Life, Light and Spirit of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, who were adorned with Heavenly Virtues, and Power given unto them to become the Sons of God, and their Aſſemblies were crowned with Life and Peace from God the Father and our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, which was the Subſtance of that which the Law pointed at, and the fulneſs of that Glory which appeared in Old time, which all the Prophets bore witneſs of from the beginning, and the fulfilling of that Fellowſhip and Unity between God and Mankind in Chriſt Jeſus, which was diſcovered unto *Solomon* in his Day, and Life and Virtue was in high eſteem in the Church of Chriſt (in thoſe dayes) which was his Garden and Vineyard, planted by his out-ſtretched Arm, which grew and proſpered, untill the Foxes and wild Beaſts got in, and preyed upon and ſpoiled his ſweet Garden, and laid it waſte, and it became open to the Wilderneſs, where the Church hath been in the dark Night of Apoſtacy (in a ſolitary Way, as in the dayes of Old, when Darkneſs over-ſpread the Earth, and groſs Darkneſs covered the People, and much Murder and Blood-ſhed hath been about Religion) the Whore hath been conſpiring againſt the true Wife, ſeeking occaſion againſt the

Spouſe

Spouſe of Chriſt, accuſing and bearing falſe witneſs againſt her before Kings and Rulers, and the great Men of the Earth, and ſo hath filled the Earth with Rebellion and Witchcraft, that many that have a deſire to do well, & to come to the knowledge of Gods Salvation, are hindred by the way, and many fall down wounded for very Sorrow and Grief of Heart, becauſe they attain not unto that they ſeek after; and many in this our Age and Generation, through the cunning craft and ſubtilty of the man of Sin, who ſo cunningly pleads for his Kingdom, and would even firſt work by Perſwaſions and Diſputes, and uſe Arguments, and tell People, that the holy men of God did fall (ſeeking thereby to ſtrengthen their Bonds, and ſo keep people from looking to the Day ſpring of Mercies from on high, to the Glorious appearance of Chriſt in Spirit, where is ſtrength enough againſt all Temptations, and a way made to eſcape all the Snares of the Devil) but ſuch look to the failings and departings from God, where never Man was nor can be accepted; and this is the ſtate and condition of many this day, that except they come to know the Lord ariſe by his mighty Power in their Hearts, and ſhake the Earth and all the Evil that is therein, and all ſinful Services put away, and ſinful Offerings brought to an end; it will be hard for ſuch to eſcape the terrible day of the Lord: Oh therefore return, return, bring no more ſinful Offerings, nor vain Oblations before the Lord: he is weary of them, as ever he was in the daves of old, and of calling Aſſemblies in a ſinful ſtate, whilſt Chriſt is not known to take away Sin, and while his inward inviſible Life is not waited for; this at the beſt and higheſt eſtate, though in never ſo high a Profeſſion, is altogether unfit for God; for while Sin remains, the ſeparation ſtands between them and the Lord; and ſuch a Body they are as old *Iſrael* was in the day of their Rebellion; *The whole Head ſick, and the whole Heart faint, full of putrified Sores from the Head to the Foot.* Therefore take heed O all ye people how ye profeſs Chriſt Jeſus; for he will have a peculiar people, ſuch as Worſhip the Father in Spirit and in Truth, ſuch he ſeeks to Worſhip him, who are zealous of good Works, and not for Evil,

Iſa 1. 5, 6.

John 4. 23, 24.

not

not pleaders for Sin; these are not for the Lord, but against him, and the Lamb and his Followers shall overcome them, and with their spiritual Weapons they shall prevail, and they shall have the Crown which is incorruptible; for they stand for Christs Kingdom against all the Powers of Wickness in the highest places whatsoever, *Ephes.* 6.12. *Tit.* 2.14. For Sin was the cause of mans separation from God in the beginning, and the Sin of *Israel* separated between the Lord and them, and their Iniquities with-held good things from them; *Isa.* 59. 2. and Sin was the cause of the with-drawings of the Heavenly Peace and good things of Gods Kingdom from the People called *Christians.* And to this day that is the cause why the Lord withholds good things from them, who have lost that Life and Power of Christ that was revealed amongst the Christians in the Primitive Times, and the Enjoyment of God's heavenly Presence in their Assemblies: And Dark, Dangerous Times have followed them that have Rebelled against the Lord, and a Dark Night of Apostacy hath spread over all Nations, and the Church hath been in the Wilderness, and hard Travels and Exercises, and many sore Troubles and Persecutions she hath met withal, great Trials and Sufferings of divers kinds, which come not short of the great Sufferings of the People of God in the former Ages of the World (as I said before) but rather exceed them, *Heb.* 11. 31, 38. as might largely be spoken of. But something lies upon me to write concerning *Baptism* and the *Supper* of the *Lord*, with something concerning *Faith* and *Hope*, &c.

Seeing there are many this day that go about to render the Lords People, in scorn call'd *Quakers*, as such as deny the Ordinances of the Church of Christ, who are a People gathered by the Lord, and built upon the sure Rock and Foundation (of many Ages and Generations, Christ Jesus) who are come to the guidance of the Spirit of Truth, which is the ground of true Demonstration, which reveals the Mysteries of Gods Kingdom, and opens to the Understandings of his People the weighty matters relating to the Peace of their Souls, which Eye hath not seen, nor Ear heard, but its revealed unto us by the Spirit which searcheth all things, even the deep things of God, with-

out which no man can be wise to Salvation; therefore all must bow to the spiritual Ministration of Christ Jesus, who is ascended up on high into the Glory he had with the Father before the World began, from whence his Light and Spirit comes down into the Hearts of the Sons and Daughters of Men, to enlighten them, that they may see the Filthiness of their Hearts, and so come to loath themselves in their own sight, and deny their own sinful Works, and so be saved from Destruction; by whose power the Serpents Head comes to be bruised, and so cast out, and the Works of Uncleanness and Unrighteousness cast out with him, that he may no more have part in Man and Woman, but that in the Light and Spirit of Christ they may walk, and so become true Worshippers of the Father in Spirit and Truth; for out of the Spirit and Truth all are in the broad Way, that leads to Destruction; and so they Worship they know not what, and are always sowing to the Flesh, of which they shall reap Corruption: And this is the False Ground, where Sin is conceived by the Power of Darkness, in the Disobedient Heart (where the Power of Godliness is not to be known, unless it be to Condemnation) and in that state all is out of true form, frame and order, divided from the precious Life, and scattered as Sheep upon Barren Mountains without a Shepherd, in this Dark Cloudy time, wherein the Glory of the Church of Christ, that was revealed in the Apostles days, hath been vailed from mens Understandings, and Hirelings (again) yea, grievous Wolves have entered in, which have not spared the Flock, but cloathed them with the Wool, and eat the Fat, as the old Apostates did, but have not fed the Flock, *Ezek.* 34. 5. But now is the Lord come to gather the lost scattered Ones from the Desolate Hills and Mountains, into the true Rest, where the Flocks of his Companions feed, and lie down at Noon, where the one Shepherd and one Sheepfold is known, where they are united together in the Covenant of Life, and so know Rest to their Souls, 1 *Pet.* 2. 5. *John* 10. 16.

And unto this true Fold all must come, that they may be acquainted with the Power and Life of Christ Jesus, which gathers the Mind into a heavenly Frame, and brings it to a true stayed-

ſtayedneſs upon the Lord; and unto this holy Power all muſt be gathered out of the Wilderneſs of t e ſinful World, where there is no certain way, but where People are ſeeking the Living amongſt the Dead, in the invented ways of Fallen man, which by the Light and Spirit of Chriſt are clearly ſeen as they are, which Light was before the Invention of man was, and will remain when they are all gone. And therefore in a ſenſe and ſight of the many wandrings this day, of thoſe that profeſs *Chriſtianity*, a true deſire ariſeth in my Heart to the Lord for their return, while time laſts, before they go away from hence and be no more ſeen; for various Judgments and Opinions have riſen amongſt the People concerning the Worſhip of God, and the Coming of the Lord; ſome believing after this manner, and ſome after that; and a great ſtir amongſt the People concerning Ordinances, who have been in the imitation of ſuch Performances, as they conceive the Saints in time paſt were in, while they are out of the Way of God the Saints were in, who were led by the Spirit of God, and ſtood for Chriſt's Kingdom, which conſiſteth in Righteouſneſs, and ſtands *not in Word, but in Power*, 1 Cor. 4. 20. And what is it for ſuch to profeſs Worſhip, and talk of the things of God, while the Spirits motion is not waited for, and while ſin ſtands between them and the Lord; ſuch can no more inherit the Bleſſing, nor obtain the Promiſes, then the Will-Worſhippers of old, who had loſt the Living Preſence of God, and were covering themſelves, but not with the Spirit of the Lord; yet had many Offerings and Sacrifices, with which they came to the Altar of the Lord, although they had forſaken him, and were far from him in their Hearts: And theſe had Circumciſion in the Sign, but not in the Subſtance; they were circumciſed outwardly, but not inwardly; they were not circumciſed in Heart, as many now a-days; they are boaſting of Baptiſm in ſign outwardly, in many ways and forms, telling of *John* and his Baptiſm, but underſtand not the extent of it, how far it did reach, for it was a preparation in that day to fit People for Chriſt Jeſus, bringing them to a confeſſion of ſins, that they might come to Chriſt, who was made manifeſt to take away ſin, and Chriſt was baptized of *John*

to fulfil that Miniſtration; for *John*'s Baptiſm could not take away ſin, *but one comes after me* (ſaith he) *that is mightier than I, he ſhall baptize you with the holy Ghoſt and Fire*, which *John*'s Baptiſm was a Figure of, *John* 3. 11. And ſo there was a Glory attending his Miniſtration, in his day, as the Miniſtration of the Law was glorious in its time; but now Chriſt is come, who fulfils the Law and the Prophets, whoſe Glory exceeds them, whoſe Judgment is near, and he condemns ſin in the riſe of it, in the Heart; and this is nearer than the outward Law, which took hold only of the outward Man, but Chriſts Law is a ſpiritual Law, taking hold of the Inner man, bringing Condemnation upon the man of ſin within, that thereby he may take away ſin in the very root of it, and ſo bring it to an end, and bring in Everlaſting Righteouſneſs. And ſo *John*'s Baptiſm was outwardly, but Chriſts Baptiſm is inwardly: *John*'s Baptiſm waſhed the outſide but the Baptiſm of Chriſt waſheth the Heart; this makes clean the inſide; and this all muſt know, or they will never be cleanſed from ſin: And this is by the Spirit, as its written, by one Spirit are we all baptized into one Body, which all the true Believers were ſenſible of. And to this day the Work of God is to deſtroy the Works of the Devil, and execute Judgment upon him, as it was in the Primitive Times, and Chriſt Jeſus is the ſame yeſterday to day and forever. And hereby they were witneſſes of the Reſurrection of Chriſt, and not only ſo, but of his Spiritual and Second Coming, by whoſe Power and Spirit they were quickned, that were dead in ſins and Treſpaſſes, and awakened unto Righteouſneſs, and this is that which brings all true Believers to an inward experience of the Work of Redemption, and ſo they come to know the River of Judgment, and the Water of Regeneration, which waſheth away the Filth from the Soul, and hereby they paſs from Death to Life, from the Death that came by Sin, into the Life which is come by Chriſt Jeſus, *John* 2. 14. And ſo the ſpiritual Baptiſm comes to be known, which was ſignified by *John*'s Baptiſm. And to what purpoſe is it for thee, O Man or Woman! to profeſs Redemption and Salvation by Chriſt, and thou not ſaved and redeemed by him, but ſitteſt down in a ſinful Profeſſion of him, and comeſt

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not to know the holy Ghosts Baptism, but continueſt in thy ſins from Year to Year, and art like to dye there; and if ſo thou (ſurely) dyeſt a ſtranger to God, and haſt no right nor intereſt in Chriſt, nor any part or portion in Heavens Kingdom; therefore ariſe and come away, for the Goſpel Day is come, and the Power of Chriſt is known, who is come to eaſe the Creation of the heavy Burden of Sin, which it hath long groaned under, and the Creature it ſelf ſhall be delivered from the Bondage of Corruption, and brought into the glorious Liberty of the Sons of God, *Rom.* 8. 21. And nothing ſhort of this delivering ſaving Power will ſtand any in ſtead in the day of Account [No Baptiſm ſhort of the Baptiſm of the holy Ghoſt will prepare the Soul for the Lord, for outward Water cannot waſh away ſin, no more than the Blood of Goats and Calves in old time, which was a figure of the ſprinkling of the Blood of Jeſus upon the Conſcience, which is a Myſtery to the World, as the holy Ghoſts Baptiſm is] and therefore I may ſay as the Apoſtle did, *Circumciſion availeth nothing, nor Uncircumciſion*; ſo I ſay, whether baptized outwardly, or not baptized, it avails nothing, but a new Creature, *Gal.* 6. 15. And it will be with many, as it was ſaid concerning ſome of old, whoſe circumciſion was reckoned for uncircumciſion, who had but the outward ſign; for ſaid the Apoſtle, *He is not a* Jew *that is one outwardly*; *neither is that circumciſion, that is outward in the Fleſh: But he is a* Jew *that is one inwardly, and that is circumciſion which is of Heart in the Spirit, not of the Letter, whoſe Praiſe is not of men but of God*, Rom. 2. 29.

So Baptiſm is that of the Heart in the Spirit, & ſuch as ſit down *ſhort* of this they are not come to the *true ſaving Baptiſm*, but ſuch as are thus baptized they are the true born Children of the bleſſed *ſeed*, Chriſt Jeſus who is the beginning of the creation of *God*, whoſe Baptiſm is more deep and of greater force & vertue than the Baptiſm of *John*, *John* 3. 11. And theſe are Members of that Myſtical Body, of which Chriſt is head, and they are built upon the ſure Foundation, and they are in the Way of Life and Peace. And ſo by the Glory of Chriſt all Falſe Ways and Worſhips are diſcovered to them, who is the Way to the Father, which

which begets Man and Woman unto God, out of ſin, and Unrighteouſneſs, and gives them that Peace which the World cannot give; and theſe have the Gift of his bleſſed *Spirit, which helps their Infirmities*, Rom. 8. 26. and doth that for them that they cannot do for themſelves; and theſe know the Travil of their Souls, and are ſatisfied through the Love of God in Chriſt Jeſus, who ſaves his from their Sins, and ſo from Hell and Deſtruction, and theſe being by him baptized, they come into a true humble ſtate, and ſo are witneſſes of his gentle leadings, who is the true Shepherd and Biſhop of the Soul (whoſe Owner the Sheep are) who ſtands by them, and defends them in all their Trials and Temptations, and never leaves them nor forſakes them, but brings them to a ſure Deliverance, *from the Power of Darkneſs, and tranſlates them into the Kingdom of God's Dear Son*, Col. 1. 13, 14. And this is the ſaving Baptiſm which brings the Conſcience to anſwer in the ſight of God, in a ſanctified eſtate before him, which is not the waſhing away the filth of the fleſh, *But the anſwer of a good Conſcience towards God, by the Reſurrection of Jeſus Chriſt*, 1 Pet. 3. 21, 22.

And ſo this leads to the Attonement, and ſo to true Reconciliation, and Peace with God in Chriſt, where the Condemnation ceaſeth unto ſuch who walk *not after the Fleſh, but after the Spirit*, Rom. 8. 1. And thus the true Church is baptized into Chriſt, and puts on Chriſt, and the Kingdom is prepared for them, becauſe they walk with him in the Regeneration, *Mat.* 19, 28, 29. Being baptized into his Sufferings, and planted together with him *in the likeneſs of his Death, and follow him daily through the Croſs, going after him, bearing his Reproach*, Rom. 6. 3, 4, 5, 6. Heb. 13. 13. And ſo the holy Ghoſt and Fire burns up and conſumes Sin and Iniquity; and when a man comes to this Baptiſm all his ſinful Services come to be manifeſted as they are, and Judgment executed upon them accordingly, which are but Droſs and Dung, or Wood, Hay and Stubble, which Chriſt Jeſus conſumes, *who baptizeth with the holy Ghoſt and Fire*, Mat. 3. 11, 12. 1 Cor. 3. 12, 13. And by this the Church comes to be purely purged, as the Daughter of *Zion* in old time, *even by the Spirit of Judgment and the Spirit of Burning*, Iſa. 4. 4.

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And so the Haughtiness of Man comes to be bowed down, and his Loftiness laid low, and the Lord alone is Exalted, *Isa* 2. 10, 11, 12. But Alas! its a hard thing for Proud Flesh to come down to this low Valley, to be crucified with Christ from the Low, Earthly, Beggerly Elements and Rudiments of the World, although that be the very Way, by which the Kingdom is obtained; as its written, *If we Dye with him, we shall Live with him; if we Suffer with him, we shall Reign with him; but if we deny him, he also will deny us*, 2 Tim. 2. 11, 12. So that the denying of Christ is the abiding in sin, where there is no Testmony for God, and against the Devil, the World, nor the Flesh. And here is the denying of Christ before men, who deny to suffer with him, and to go after him, bearing his Reproach; and this Baptism leads into a Self-denying State, *to take up the daily Cross*, as Christ commanded, *Mark* 8. 34, 35. And that which hinders this Work in man is the Evil One, that wrought in a Mystery in the Apostles Days, that Spirit of Anti-christ, which turned the Heart and Mind from God's Power and Spirit revealed in the Light of Jesus within; and so holds People in a Dark, Sinful Profession of Christ, only talking of the Experiences of the People of God in former Ages, like the Old Apostate *Jews*, who *Stole the Word of God from their Neighbours*; and these were Thieves and Robbers, who knew not the Operation of the Word in themselves, but the Enemy rules their own Hearts; and such are Empty Professors, like those that were compared to Wells without Water, and Trees without Fruit, *Promising Liberty to others, when they themselves are the Servants of Corruption*, while the Wrath of God hangs over them, because of Sin, which one day they will know, except they Repent; and such are within the Borders of *Mystery Babylon the great, the Mother of Harlots, and Abominations of the Earth*, *Rev.* 17. 2, 3, 4, 5. Where many comfort themselves with the Wine of her Golden Cup, Fair on the outside, but within full of Abominations, who is for the Day of Wrath, and for the Burnings of the Lord's Anger, who is reserved for the Day of Distress and Calamity, whose

Jer. 23. 30.

2 Pet. 2. 19. Joh. 8. 34

whose Children never come to Perfection, but dye as Untimely Births that never see the Son; Leanness and Barrenness of Soul, and great Trouble and Horror of Conscience is within her, Death and Famine draws nigh unto her Borders. *Happy are they that depart from her, for all her Ways lead* (to Hell, and go) *down to the Chambers of Death*, Prov. 7. 25, 26, 27. And therefore, come forth of her, all ye who have desires after the Lord, *be not partakers with her, of her sins, lest you receive of her Plagues*, Rev. 18. 4. And as all come out of her, and come to know the Lord, and Fear and Obey him, knowing the Work of Regeneration, they come to be Free-born, *And so come to be Heirs of God, joynt Heirs with Christ*: And such come to the great Year of Jubile to be released from the Bondage of Sin and Death; and this is Joy to the true Believers, who can say, Salvation and Strength is come, and the Kingdom of our God, and the Power of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever; and this is the Testimony of the Spirit of Truth, which Proclaims Freedom and Deliverance to the Soul; but the Spirit of Anti-christ (which rules in them that are in the sinful World) denyes the Day of Christ, the great (Freedom Day, the) Year of Jubile, and so are in danger (if they come not to the appearance of Christ in this his Day) to be Bond Slaves to the Enemy forever; and so this Evil Spirit is leading People to deny the Free Birth, and such, notwithstanding, expect the Kingdom, while they are in their sins, and walking in Unholy Paths building (as the People that rebelled against God in the Days of old) and *Dawbing over their Buildings with Untempered Morter*. But the Day of the Lord is over all, and he will Shake the Earth and Heavens also, that nothing shall remain for a *Foundation to build upon but Christ Jesus and him revealed in Mankind*; all other Foundations will God break in pieces, *and throw down all their Works*, Rev. 5. 16. Isa. 1. 19. And all Coverings will the Lord rip up, and all shall be seen as they are. Therefore come away to things of a more enduring Nature than that which Perisheth (which is visible) and passeth away, which Christ hath fulfilled; and as you

Rom. 8. 17.

Ezek. 13. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.

you come truly to know his Spiritual and Powerful Baptiſm, you will be Members of that Church of which Chriſt is Head, which bears his Image, which is *waſhed with the Water of Regeneration by the Word*, Epheſ. 5. 26. And ſo all will know the one Baptiſm, for as there is one Lord and one Faith, ſo there is one Baptiſm; and ſuch come to be Heirs with him of that *Inheritance which fades not away*, 1 Pet. 1. 4. And ſo you will know the thing ſignified by *John*'s Baptiſm, and you will come into the Brother-hood, as you receive the Spirit of Adoption; and ſuch will have right to call God Father, and they ſhall be ſealed with the Seal of the New-Covenant; and ſuch are Gods Witneſſes to the World, That Chriſt is riſen from the dead, and become the Firſt-Fruits in them that ſlept. And ſo the Wrath of God will come to an end, and unto ſuch his Love will reach in the Inſhinings of it upon their Souls, which proclaims heavenly Joy and Peace in their Habitations, which will more and more lead them into the aſſurance of the Life that hath no end. And ſo Chriſt's Baptiſm muſt increaſe, and [*John*'s] muſt decreaſe, and all that are baptized by the one Spirit they come to be of one Heart and one Mind, and ſo are tempered together into the one Spirit, and are of tender Hearts and Conſciences, and they come to be faſtned together in the one Life, as *ſo many Branches ingrafted into the ſame Root*, 1 Cor. 10. 16, 17. And ſuch ſhall be *Pillars in God's Houſe, and ſhall go forth no more*, Rev. 2. 12. Epheſ. 4. 15, 16.

And ſo the deſire of my Soul is, That all poor diſtreſſed People may come to know the one Lord, one Faith, and one Baptiſm, ſo will all be made partakers of the Miniſtration of Chriſt Jeſus, *and will be taught of God*, Iſa. 54. 13. And great ſhall be their Peace, *who ſhall be fed with the hidden Manna*, the Bread that comes down from Heaven) *and ſhall drink of the Water of Life*, Rev. 2. 17. Chap. 22. 17. And becauſe that People know not this one Baptiſm of the holy Ghoſt and Fire, therefore Pride remains, and many *Heatheniſh* cuſtoms amongſt the people called *Chriſtians*, and Stretched-forth Necks and Wanton Eyes, and Mincing Feet, and Plaiting of Hair, and the like, which is for the Day of the burning of the Jealouſie of the

Lord; but bleſſed be his Worthy Name, he hath baptized many into that Life and Sollidity, ſo that they have forſaken theſe old Lovers, who are redeemed from a vain Converſation, not with Gold and Silver, but by the pretious blood of Jeſus Chriſt, and ſo are cloathed with the Ornament of a *meek and quiet Spirit*, 1 Pet. 3. 4. And ſo you that reſt in the Figure of this Baptiſm, and hearken to the Perſwaſions of your Evil Hearts; and conclude this ſpiritual inward Work is not now to be experienced, as in days paſt; neither is there any immediate Revelation in theſe times. Here you greatly deceive your own Souls, and are found Enemies unto the Work of God, and pleading for Satans Kingdom, and keeping up that which Chriſt Jeſus is come to deſtroy; and therefore be perſwaded in time, leſt you run out your day and time here, and the Night of perpetual Miſery come upon you; for the Lord ſees you and marks your doings, and beholds how you ſtand decked with the Outſide-profeſſion of him, and how you have Oppoſed his bleſſed ſpiritual Appearance, who in the end will be found no Reſpecter of Perſons, but will *Reward every man, according as his Work ſhall be. He that ſoweth to the Fleſh, ſhall of the Fleſh reap Corruption; but he that ſoweth to the Spirit, ſhall of the Spirit reap Life Everlaſting.*

1 Cor. 3. 8.
Gal. 6. 7, 8.

And as concerning the *Supper* of the *Lord*, what various Ways and Opinions are People ſcattered in, who are ſeperated from the Subſtance, and running after the Shadow, and ſo are in ſeveral Ways and Opinions, but all come ſhort of the true Supper, who come not to the teachings of Chriſt, who ſaid, *The Words that I ſpeak unto you they are Spirit and they are Life*, John 6. 63. Who gives the heavenly Bread, *which he that eats of ſhall live forever*, John 6. 51. Who ſaid, *He that eats my Fleſh and drinks my Blood dwells in me, and I in him*, Joh. 6. 33, 34, 35, 36. And this is that which was pointed at by Chriſt in the outward Supper, which was the Supper he made with them before he ſuffered; but this is not that which is to remain amongſt the Saints to the end of the World, being made

made up of outward Creatures, which cannot nouriſh the Soul, therefore hath he ordained another ſpiritual Supper, which is more durable than the Figure, for the Redeemed Soul to feed upon, *without which it dyes from the Life of the World to come*, John 6. 53. Therefore ſaith Chriſt, *Behold I ſtand at the Door and knock, if any man hear my voice, I will come in and ſup with him, and he with me*, Rev. 3. 20. So this is the effectual Supper which is to remain to Succeeding Ages, which is the fleſh and Blood of Chriſt in the Myſtery, viz. *Spirit and Life*, John 6. 63. And this is the Fruit of the bleſſed Vine, which truly fills the Soul with Joy; and in this the outward Supper is fulfilled, according to Chriſt's own words, *I will no more drink of the Fruit of the Vine with you, till it be fulfilled in the Kingdom of God*, Luke 22. 16. And this all the redeemed, who are brought out of ſin, into the Image of God, feed upon: and this is the *Tree of Life in the heavenly Paradiſe*, which was the Life of the Soul before the Fall, and he that lives and overcomes *ſhall eat of it*, Rev. 2. 7. So that without overcoming the Devil and his Works, there is none can eat thereof, and that's the reaſon why ſo many are ignorant of this heavenly Subſtance, for they cannot know it, nor taſte of its Life and Vertue whilſt in ſin, *For the Cherubims and the Flaming Sword are at* Eden's *Gate, which turns every way to keep the Way of the Tree of Life*, Gen. 3. 24. And therefore the new Creation muſt be known, and a Reſtoration into the Image of God again, which was before the Fall, and the Mind and Conſcience muſt be ſprinkled with the Blood of Jeſus; its not enough to talk of it, but all muſt come to know it in the Myſtery of it, which is to be known in the Light, which ſhines from Chriſt into the Heart, and ſo as you experience the New Birth, you will ſee and know the ſubſtance of the outward Supper, and the new Wine of the Kingdom you will know, whic makes glad the Heart, which fills it with joy and gladneſs, and this is the true Communion of his Body and Blood (*viz.*) The Cup of Bleſſing which we bleſs, and the Heavenly Bread which we break, which nouriſheth the Soul unto Eternal Life; and this is a Myſtery which the

Heb. 13. 14.

1 *Joh.* 1. 6, 7.

Wisdom of the World never knew, nor never shall, but its hid from them, *and revealed to Babes and Sucklings*, Mat. 11. 25.

So there hath been a great noise amongst Professors about the Supper of the Lord, some in one way, and some in another, while the Night of Darkness hath been over them, in which people have been in a spiritual slumber, where the False dreaming part hath been at work, which forms an uncertain satisfaction to its self; *As when a hungry man dreams that he eats, but he awakes and his Soul is empty, and as when a thirsty man dreams that he drinks, but he awakes and behold he is faint*, Isa. 29. 8.

And so consider, O ye people! how the Light of God's heavenly Day sometimes doth break forth in your Heart, which lets you see the Barrenness, and Leanness, and Emptiness of your Souls, and puts you in mind of the World to come, that unto it you might turn your Minds, and believe in it; for its *Gods Grace which brings Salvation, which hath appeared unto all Men*, Tit. 2. 11, 12. which instructs and leads in the Way to the heavenly Kingdom, and to sit down in heavenly Places *in Christ Jesus*, Ephes. 2. 6. and to sup with him, and he with us; and here is no Defilement, but a pure cleansing from all uncleanness; for they that come into the true unity and fellowship of the Saints must walk in the Light, for that Discovers all the Temptations of the Enemy, and preserves in a state of holiness, *without which no man can see the Lord*. For where the Defilements remain, either in Principles or Practices, there is a deceitful Heart, which turns aside from following the Lord; and in this sinful ground are many this day, covering themselves with a profession of Christ, and talking of Salvation by him, and are content only to hear what he did in days past, and to read these things recorded in the Scriptures of Truth, concerning him, as the *Jews* of old, who read the *Scriptures: In them* (saith Christ) *you think to have Eternal Life; but they are they that testifie of me, and you will not come unto me, that you may have Life*; and so many are covering themselves with a bare profession of Christ, as old *Adam* and *Eve* did when then they sowed Figg-leaves together to cover their Nakedness, but all will not hide them from

Heb 12. 14.

Joh. 5. 9.

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the Eye of the Lord, nor ſhelter them from the ſearchings of his Power, who is riſen in this his day to plead with all Fleſh; for he hath ſeen the falſe Coverings of the people of this Age, and their Vanities and daily Evils, are in the view of our God, who is come and coming to try the Nations, and to ſound the bottom of a ſinfull Profeſſions; and the Harveſt of the Earth is almoſt fully ripe, the Lord hath revealed it, which will be reaped and caſt into the fearful Wine-Preſs, and he that treads the Wine-Preſs of the fierceneſs and wrath of Almighty God is on his way, and the day of Vengeance is in his Heart, for the Year of his Redeemed is come, *Iſa.* 59.17,18. But herein is the unſpeakable love of God made known, in that he hath cauſed his Day ſpring from on high to break forth in this Generation, through his long forbearance, as in the dayes of *Noah*, that People might believe in it, and be ſaved, and not run out their dayes in Wickedneſs, as they did in the old World, who were at laſt reſerved for a day of Wrath, which came upon them at unawares, when they were eating and drinking in their ſinfull Practices, who were condemned with an overthrow, and the Cities of *Sodom* and *Gomorrah*, which were turned into Aſhes for an example to them that afterward ſhould live Ungodly, 2 *Pet.* 2.6. *Jude* 4. And ſo in this day of the Lords mercy he hath declared, *that he takes no pleaſure in the death of him that dieth, for he is an unchangeable God*, Ezek. 18. 30. *but wills rather that all ſhould turn and live*, and ſo eſcape the day of Vengeance which draws near upon all the Ungodly, who obey not the Goſpel of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, 2 *Theſ* 2.8,9 And ſo return unto Chriſt all ye people, and obey his Voice: *For if they eſcaped not who refuſed him that ſpake on Earth, how much more ſhall not we eſcape, if we turn away from him that ſpeaks from Heaven? whoſe Miniſtration is very Powerfull to the raiſing the Soul out of Sin and Death, who breaks down the middle Wall of partition between God and Man, and blots out the Hand writing Ordinances, and nails it to his Croſs*, Heb. 12. 25. Chap. 7. 16, 17. Col. 2.14. And this is the Goſpel which is the Power of God unto Salvation to all true Believers, *Rom.* 1.16. and all that believe this everlaſting Goſpel come to be Children of the

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new *Jeruſalem*, who brings forth her Children to Perfection, and they come to be Heirs of Grace and of Life, and God doth free them from Captivity, Death and Bondage; and ſo they come to be fellow-Citizens, and of the Houſhold of God, *Epheſ.* 2. 19. And theſe come to Milk out (abundantly) and be ſatisfied at the Breaſts of *Jeruſalem's* Conſolation, whereby their Souls are made to rejoyce, and their Bones to flouriſh like an Herb, *Iſa.* 66. 12, 13, 14. Chap. 34. 10. And theſe things were in old time ſpoken of by the holy Prophets, which are fulfilled in Chriſt, who is the Fountain of all living Virtues and divine Conſolation, whereby the Souls of the Redeemed are repleniſhed, in whom is all our freſh Springs: and ſo all muſt come to know a preparation in Heart by the Lord Power, that all may be eſpouſed and married to Chriſt, and in the holy Covenant ſtand ready to enter into the Marriage Chamber, to partake of the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, whoſe Wife is to be arrayed with fine Linnen, white and clean, which is the Righteouſneſs of Saints, *Rev.* 19. 8. and this is the happineſs of the Soul forever; here the true Baptiſm by one Spirit, into the fellowſhip of the Saints in Light is known, and ſuch come to be fitted for the Table of the Lord, and to know a feeding together upon the Feaſt of fat things in his holy Mountain, *Iſa.* 25. 6. and think not that any in their pollutions, who refuſe the call of the Lord, ſhall partake of this Marriage Supper of the Lamb, nay, but that will be the portion of all Unrighteous men, who intrude themſelves into thoſe things they ſee not the depth of, as was ſaid to that unprepared Man, *How cameſt thou hither, not having on a Wedding Garment?* unto whom it was ſaid, *Bind him Hand and Foot, and caſt him into utter Darkneſs, where there is Weeping, Wailing and Gnaſhing of Teeth,* Matth. 22. 11, 12, 13. Rev. 19. 9. And ſo ariſe and be awakened, and be not alwayes like the ſickly *Corinthians*, who diſcerned not the Lords body, *1 Cor.* 9. 28, 29, 30. and take heed how you perform a Service to God in a ſinfull ſtate; for he will not accept of it, nor receive it with good will at your Hands, whatever ſhew you make, as they did in the dayes of Old, whoſe Sacrifices the Lord did not regard, but the Deceiver was accurſed who had a Male

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in his Flock, and vowed and offered to God an unclean thing, *Mal.* 1.13, 14. Chap. 2.13. So you have ſomething given you of God in your own Conſciences, which is unſpotted, which never conſented to Sin; take heed how you offer out of the Holineſs of it, leſt you fall under the Curſe as they did; and you may conſider how *Saul* in the day of his Rebellion forced himſelf to offer to God, when he deſired honour before the People, who waited not for the Lords counſel; and this Offering did not free *Saul* from the guilt of Rebellion againſt God, which was as the Sin of Witchcraft, and ſtubbornneſs as Iniquity and Idolatry, 1 *Sam.* 15.23,30. Chap. 13.12. but all muſt be clean. *For I will be ſanctified in them that come near me, ſaith the Lord,* Lev. 10.3.

Oh! the danger that many are in this Day, of the Judgments of God to fall heavy upon them, becauſe of ſin; yea, and they that are high in Profeſſion too, becauſe they come not to a true ſenſe of their own States and Conditions, as ſome of old, who offered to God, and yet periſhed, who were conſumed and dyed before the Lord, as the two hundred and fifty of *Corah*'s company offered unto God in a Rebellious ſtate, and periſhed; And *Nadab* and *Abihu* were ſmitten, and dyed, for offering ſtrange Fire before the Lord; And *Saul* declined from the Kingdom, and loſt the Government of *Iſrael*: And you may read how haſty *Ely*'s Sons were about the Prieſt-hood and the Offerings, 1 *Sam.* 2.12. and what became of them.

And ſo be warned, all ye People, and ſeek unto God, that he may give you Repentance, that ſo you may be prepared for the Lords Supper (as I ſaid before) and ſo come to enjoy the Promiſes of God in Chriſt Jeſus, that your Diſolations may be repaired; for the Repairer of Breaches is come, and the Reſtorer of Paths to walk in; and ſo with the Church in old time, you will know his Banqueting-Houſe, and his Banner of Love over you, and under his Shadow you will *ſit down, where his Fruit will be ſweet to your Taſte,* Can. 2.3, 4. And this is that which gives encouragement daily to the true Believers in all their Afflictions, which fills them with Praiſes and Hallelujahs unto him that lives forever, and ſo they know the enlarging of their Hearts in the Everlaſting Love of God, where they come to have

have a sure Portion in Christ Jesus, *where the Pastures of Life spring, where the Poor gathered Ones feed together, who are returned to the chief Shepherd and Bishop of their Souls*, 1 Pet. 2. 25. Ezek. 34. 14. Psal. 23. 2. And so by Repentance, that's the Way to come to the Lord's Mountain, where his House is established; and as the Nations come to Repentance, as they Forsake their sins, they will ask the Way to *Zion*, with their Faces thitherward, and they will say, *Come, let us go up to the Mountain of the Lord, to the House of the God of* Jacob, *and he will teach us of his Wayes, and we will walk in his Paths*, Isa 2. 2, 3. And the Way of true Repentance is to take up the Cross, to all the Pleasures and Delights and Unprofitable Exercises in the World, and so your Souls will live, and delight themselves in

Psal. 36. 8. Psal. 46. 4 Psal. 65. 9.

the Fatness of his House, and drink of the River of his Pleasure: And this is satisfaction, above that which is Visible, that if *the Figg-tree do not blossom, if the Flock should be cut off from the Fold, and there should be no Herd in the Stall; and the Labour of the Olive should fail, and the Fields should yield no Meat, I would rejoyce in the Lord, and joy in the God of my Salvation*, Hab. 3. 17, 18. And so God hath before-ordained, in his fore-seeing Wisdom and Council, that if the *outward man Perish, the inward man shall be Renewed day by day*, 2. Cor. 4. 16.

So I leave the Consideration of these things to the serious Reader, that who so is dissatisfied in Mind concerning the true Satisfaction of their Souls, that they may turn to the Living God, in the Light of his beloved Son, which shines into their Hearts; that true Redemption out of their sins they may come to know, and so increase in heavenly vertues, having Faith, which stands in God's Power, and having the Knowledge of the Father, and his Son Jesus Christ, whom to know is Life Eternal:

Luke 21. 19.

And here the increase of Patience will be known, in the which the Souls possession must be in this earthly Tabernacle and Meekness and Temperance; all must know, for such can follow Christ where-ever he goeth, who lives in the enjoyment of these Blessings afore-said; and all that's short of these things, who sit down in dead Forms, where

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the living ſpring of Life is not known to ſatisfie the Soul, and they deck themſelves with worldly Wiſdom, which cannot reach to find out the things of God, though it may reach to find out things that's earthly, and it may lead into the Rudiment of the World, *yet no man knows the things of God, but by the Spirit of God.* And in the day that's nigh at hand againſt all ſuch, as thus ſtand in Rebellion againſt him, will the Lord ariſe and ſeperate them far from his *Kingdom*, as old *Adam* was driven from *Paradiſe*, & ſo that all may forſake their ſins, & be prepared & fitted, for the *table* of the *Lord* in his holy Mountain (as is ſaid before) that the Cup of Bleſſing, and the feeding upon the pure Body, which is Spirit and Life, all may know, *and ſo you will have Life abundantly, even a Well, in you, which ſprings up to Life Eternal*, John 4. and this will ſatisfie all, and bring all *to lie down in Peace with God for evermore*, John 14. 27. 1 Cor. 2. 10, 11.

And as concerning the Coming of the Lord Jeſus, how uncertain have People been in their Judgments, ſome in one way, and ſome in another, following their own Inventions, being darkened with the Night of Apoſtacy, unto whom the Viſion of all is become as a ſealed Book, and ſo puts the Day of the Lord far off. Some look for his coming in the outward Clouds, and others when the World is at an end, and ſo are ignorant of him to ſave them from their ſins; but the Scriptures ſay, *The Judge ſtands before the Door*, James 5. 8, 9. which is the Door of the Heart, at which Chriſt ſtands in Spirit, ſaying, *Behold I ſtand at the Door and knock*, that thereby, as he reproves and ſmites the Heart, the hardneſs thereof may be broken, and that the Stony, Hard, Impenitent Nature of Tranſgreſſion *might be taken away*, Ezek. 11. 19. Rev. 3. 20. But while the Day of his coming is put afar off, the Heart is daily hardned through the deceitfulneſs of Sin, and the Enemy befools the Creature with an uncertain hope of Salvation in a ſinful State, as he did Man and Woman in the beginning, alluring them with that which was pleaſant to the Eye, and deſirous to look upon, and ſo brought them over to ſin, out of Obedience unto God, and deceived Rev. 3. 20. *Gen.* 3. 5.

them with a Lye, telling them, *They ſhould be as Gods*, and thereby deſtroyed their Souls. So here the Devil was a Lyar and a Murderer from the beginning; and ſo he hath had his Way amongſt all ſinful and unbelieving People, from the beginning of the World, ever ſince the Fall, and he ſeeks ſtill to cover his Head from the bruiſing Power of Chriſt Jeſus; and ſuch as live in ſin, are of the Mind of the Serpent, and they through obeying him, become his Servants, and ſo are like to be ſent away with him into Everlaſting Miſery, whoſe Ways are Sinful, & therefore are Deſtructive both to Soul and Body, which Chriſt is come to ſave from, that the Body may become the Temple of God again, in the Redemption by Chriſt Jeſus, out of ſin.

And ſo let all people conſider theſe things, and give not your ſelves over any longer to that ſinful Spirit, which leads you to oppoſe the Spiritual appearance of the Son of God, that thereby he might keep you in ſin all your days, that you might dye in the end of your Dayes without the Peace and Favour of God. And thus many are deceived by the Lying, Deceiveable Spirit of the World, who is of the Earth and from below; and ſuch as obey him, and follow his Deluſions, are of Earthly, Senſual Minds. And this was mans ſtate when he loſt the Image of God, to wit, the Righteouſneſs, & true Holineſs, which God created them in; and ſo *the Wrath of God turn'd againſt them*, Gen. 1.27. Gen. 3.8,9,10. And the God of the World hath *ſitten in the Temple of God ſhewing himſelf, that he is God*; and he hath been blinding the Minds of them that believe not in their Hearts, the Lord Jeſus. 2 *Theſ.* 2. 4. And leading the Men of the World to call *Light Darkneſs, and Darkneſs Light*, as the old Apoſtates amongſt the *Jews*; and ſo are in many ſinful Ways, turn'd by the Adverſary into many by-Paths, where God is not known; *For without holineſs no man can come with acceptance before him*, Heb. 12. 14.

1 Cor. 15. 47,48.

Iſa. 5. 20.

And ſo many are talking of the Reſurrection, and of everlaſting Life, but are not in the way to Life, who know not the firſt Reſurrection, and ſo are out of the way to everlaſting Life, and are in the way to everlaſting Death; for whoſo hath not part in the firſt Reſurrection, is for everlaſting Death, to be caſt in-

to the Lake of Fire, *Rev.* 20. 6, 10, 15. And Christ-Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life, who raiseth the Dead and quickneth them; and so all must believe in him, who is come to breath upon the slain, and to unite the dry Bones together, who have been in the open valleys as old *Israel*, exceeding dry, to bring forth a living people to his Praise and Glory, to partake of the Riches of the Fathers love, which through the Son is shed abroad into our Hearts. And blessed be God, a Remnant can say, that *Death is abolished, and Life and Immortallity is brought to Light*, 2 Tim. 1. 10. By the everlasting Gospel which hath been very powerfull in these last days, as the Trumpet of God which is the Voice of him that speaks from Heaven, who brings up out of the Grave of Sin and Uncleanness, and calls all that are dead in Sin to Judgment, that Men and Women may know a passage from Death to Life, as I said before, that henceforth they might not live to themselves, but to Christ that died for them and rose again, who through Death destroys him that hath the power of Death which is the Devil: but many there are who do not lay to heart the Sufferings of Christ, but live wanton upon the Earth, and nourish their Hearts as in a day of slaughter, and sport themselves over the Witnesses of God in their Consciences, as those that condemned and killed the Just, who for a time were not resisted; and though such are alive in the Flesh, yet they are dead to God, and a wofull Day draws near unto them, wherein the Lord will be known as a man of War who reckons with his Enemies. So its high time to awake and list up your Eyes, that you may see the Redeemer of the Soul, and come to know his works in you, which are to be known while people are upon the Earth; *For his wondrous Works cannot be known in the dark, nor his righteousness in the Land of forgetfulness*, Psal. 88. 10, 11, 12. Psal. 115. 17. So it must be on this side the Grave, that the Salvation of God must be known, for the *dead* cannot praise him, nor declare God's *Truth* to their Children: but the Living it is that praises God, the Fathers to the Children shall make known his Truth; and so put not of the day off the Lord, lest you be numbred with them that despise, wonder and perish, which

Ezek. 33. 9.

Heb. 2. 14.

James 5. 6.

Isa. 38. 18, 19, 20.

know not the work that God was a doing in their day; neither would they believe it though it was declared to them. So take heed, look not abroad for the coming of the Lord; go not after them that say, Lo here, and Lo there, who have loſt the pure Life that was revealed in the Primitive Times, and Darkneſs is come over them; and ſo they are filled with high Imaginations concerning the coming of the Lord: But its the poor in Spirit that feels a tender deſire after him in their Hearts, that ſhall ſee him and know him to be their comforter, though they have pierced him by reaſon of Sin, they ſhall come to mourn over him and his mercy & pity will turn towards them, whoſe Supplications and ſtrong Cryes & Tears prevailed with the Father for poor loſt Man, who cleanſeth by his Blood, and brings to remiſſion of Sins, and to the blotting out Sin, and God the Father accepts mankind in him, and adminiſters out of his fulneſs to the daily neceſſity of their Souls; and ſuch have the benefit of a Saviour, who know Reconciliation by his Death, and Salvation by his Life; and ſuch come to be true *Chriſtian* Converts, and the reaſon and underſtanding which God hath given them comes to be yoked under the power of Chriſt, and purely wrought through by the Life of the Lamb; and this is the true underſtanding, & all unruly unbridled Affections and Luſts come to be deſtroyed and caſt out, and the old man with his Deeds put off, and ſo the Body becomes the Temple of God again, 1 *Cor.* 3. 16, 17. And ſuch who are come to know their Bodies to be the Temples of the holy Ghoſt, are they who have found their Souls beloved: and they are come to the holy Goſpel day, and to the riches of the Glory of the Myſtery, which God in the riches of his Love hath made known amongſt the *Gentiles*, which is Chriſt within the hope of Glory: And ſuch as are come to the leaſt degree of this ſaving knowledge of Chriſt, come to be ſatisfied concerning his coming, according to the Scriptures, as the Author to the *Hebrews* ſaith, *It is appointed unto all men once to dye, and after that the Judgment.* So Chriſt was offered up once to bear the Sins of many, and unto all them that wait for him will he appear the ſecond

Acts 13. 41.

Rev. 1. 7.
Zach. 12. 10.

Rom. 5. 10.

2 *John* 5. 20.

cond time without Sin unto *Salvation*, *Heb.* 9.21.28. And theſe are true Believers, whoſe times are in the Fathers hand, and theſe are not like the *Jews*, that went about to comprehend the coming of Chriſt in the Fleſh by their fallen Wiſdom: Well might the Apoſtle ſay, *God hath made fooliſh the Wiſdom of this World, who by their Wiſdom knew not God.* For you may ſee how they were deceived, and how they miſt his coming in the Fleſh, who knew not the time and ſeaſon of his coming, but raiſed objections concerning him, when the fullneſs of time was come; yet ſaid they, *Elias muſt firſt come.* And ſee how they were deceived by their fallen Wiſdom, in which People ſeek to be great in Religious matters, but ſtill fail; and further ſaid they, *Search the Scriptures, for out of* Gallilee *ariſeth no Prophet*, John 17.52. Mark 9.11, 12. And well might Jeſus Chriſt ſay unto ſuch, *You know not the Scriptures nor the Power of God:* And theſe were they that his Word had no place in; and ſuch to this day, that his word hath no place in, who are not come to know his Voice, and hear his Word, (know not the Scriptures nor the Power of God, neither do ſuch underſtand the way of his coming in Spirit, although he ſaid, *he would come again*, and that he would ſend another Comforter that ſhould abide with his People forever, which ſhould fill their Hearts with Joy; *And your Joy*, ſaith Chriſt, *no Man ſhall take from you*, John 6.22. And ſuch as believe in him in his ſpiritual appearance, they know him and love him, although the World hates him (and them) yet they know that ſaying fulfilled, *He that is with you ſhall be in you*, John 14.17. And ſuch come to be ſatisfied that its his appearance ſpiritually in them, which let them ſee their Hearts daily, though wicked men hate him and villifie him, crying out, *The Light is inſufficient*; and yet the true Believers are they that walk in the Light, and they go after him bearing his Reproach, notwithſtanding the contradiction of ſuch as abide in their Sins; for they were Unbelievers that called him the Carpenters Son, when he was manifeſted to old *Iſrael*: and ſo he met with many repulſes in the dayes of his Fleſh, and yet he triumpht over all, and is ſate down at the right Hand of the Majeſty 2 Cor. 1.21. Mat. 22.29.

Heb. 10. 13. jesty on high, thence expecting his Enemies to be made his Foot-stool; and although the *Jews* did not believe in him, yet he was the Christ, and he came out of *Gallilee*: thus their Wisdom was confounded, and they that did not believe in him, nor received him perished, *John* 8. 28. *Luke* 19. 47. And so notwithstanding the many Oppositions, Repulses, Vilifications, Mockings, Scoffings and Slanders he meets withal in his spiritual appearance in Man and Woman, yet he is the Saviour of the World, he is the Light and Life of men, *John* 1. 4. and the Light within is of God, that shews unto man his Thoughts, *Amos* 4. 13. Whose Light shines in Darkness, although peoples dark Hearts and carnal corrupt Understandings cannot comprehend it, and though sin and pollutions be within, yet Christ the Light of the World is manifest to destroy it, *Heb.* 2. 14. *John* 1. 5.

And so the way of God is hid from the fallen Wisdom of Man, and past finding out by all Humane and Natural comprehension; for in that state the Seed of the Serpent grows up in the enmity in the Heart of man: And so People are Enemies to God, as the Serpent is an Enemy to him, and to his Righteous work in this his day; and here lies the Mystery of Iniquity which cannot be known, but as the Heart turns to the Lord; *And therefore seek the Lord while he may be found, and call upon him while he is near*, Isa. 55. 6. and put not off the day of his coming; *For the Hour is come that the dead shall hear the Voice of the Son of God, and they that hear shall live*, John 5. 25. For all have dyed in Transgression in the fall of the first *Adam*, and so all must come to the Resurrection of Life out of that miserable state by Christ Jesus the second *Adam*, who is a quickning Spirit the Lord from Heaven, and the deeds of the Body must be mortified while its upon the Earth, *Col.* 3. 5. for afterward it will be too late. And this can't be done, untill the spiritual appearance of Christ, who redeems by his Blood which is his Life, and thereby sprinkles the Conscience from dead Works to serve the living God, whose eternal Being upholds all things, and goes through all things, neither is there any Creature that is not manifest

2 *Cor.* 3. 16.

1 *Cor.* 15. 45.

manifeſt in his ſight, but all things lie naked and open unto the Eye of him with whom we have to do, *Heb.* 4.13. Chap. 8.14. Who is the *Gentiles* Light, and the Glory of his People *Iſrael*, *Luke* 2.32. And his coming is in this his glorious day, after the working of Satan with all Power, and Signs, and lying Wonders, and all deceivableneſs of Unrighteouſneſs in them that periſh, 2 *Theſ.* 2.8, 9, 10. who leads out of Death and Darkneſs into the Primitive Purity again, from amongſt the Watchmen of the Night, and from the greedy Dogs and Sorcerers, (which are like them of old, that can never have enough, lying down, loving to ſlumber) into the promiſe of Eternal Life hath God brought a people, where the *heavenly Treaſure is known in the earthen veſſel*, 2 Cor. 4.7. And ſuch were the faithful Followers of Chriſt in the Primitive Times, who were Witneſſes of the Spiritual and Second Coming of Chriſt; and theſe were as Clouds filled with the Dew of Heaven, and they were ſent forth by the Lord into the Barren World, to repleniſh it with the Knowledge of God; and theſe were bleſſed, and proſpered in their Labours, Travails and Teſtimonies, and *Paul* did Plant, and *Apollo* did Water, and God gave the Increaſe; and ſo Truth and Righteouſneſs did ſpring up in the Earth, and the preſence of the Lord did attend them; but ſince theſe days grievous Wolves have entered in, which have not ſpared the Flock, as the Apoſtle fore-ſaw, *Acts* 20.29, 30. But as that Evil Servant, who ſaid in his Heart, *My Lord delays his coming; and ſo began to ſmite his Fellow ſervant, and eat and drink with the Drunken; and ſmite with the Fiſt of Wickedneſs; but the Lord will come in a Time when they know not, and in an Hour when they are not aware, and will cut them aſſunder, and appoint them their Portion with the Hypocrites, where there is Weeping and Wailing and Gnaſhing of Teeth*, Mat. 24.47, 48, 49, 50, 51. But theſe true Witneſſes of Jeſus in days paſt, did not ſit down in a Worldly, Faſe Eaſe, as that Wicked Servant did, but waited in patience for the appearance of the Lord, out of their own Wills in the will of God, as becomes *Chriſtians*; becauſe, ſaid Chriſt, *you know not what Hour your Lord will come, whither at Mid-night, at Cock-*

Iſa. 56.10. *Rev.* 22.15.

Cock crowing, or in the Morning, Mark 13. 35. And these were not at a loss concerning his appearance, but were filled with his Life and Power, who preach't from a certain Ground of Experience, who had the Revelation of the Mystery of God; and so received their Wisdom from him, *which is Pure, Peaceable, Gentle, easie to be intreated*, James 3. 17. And this leads into the Way of Peace and inward Quietness, out of all Discouragements, Murmurings and Discontent; and such come to cast their Care upon the Lord, who watcheth over them, and will not suffer them to be cast out from him, *neither shall any be able to pluck them out of his hand*, John 10. 21. And this saving Knowledge of Christ leads out of all airy Notions, and corruptible sinful Professions, into the one spiritual Worship, where the Presence of God is known; *for the Father seeks such to Worship him*, John 4. 23. And this leads out of all the false Societies of the World, from such who are, as the old Apostates, *feeding themselves without fear, Promising Liberty to others, and themselves the Servants of Corruption*, who are called *Clouds carried about with a Tempest; Wells without Water, Wandering Stars, for whom the Blackness of Darkness is reserved forever*, 2 Pet. 2. 19. Jude 12. And these were false Witnesses, Empty Clouds, whose preaching was not attended with the peaceable Wisdom of God, but with contention and strife; and these could speak great swelling Words, and allure through much Wantonness, *and have Mens Persons in Admiration, because of Advantage*, Jude 16. And many have followed their pernitious Ways, by reason of whom, the Way of Truth is Evil spoken of; *But their Judgment, though of a long time* (saith the Apostle) *doth not linger, neither doth their Damnation slumber*, 2 Pet. 2. 2, 3. And many have gone after the Evil Example of those aforesaid; and have not waited for the Son from Heaven, in his spiritual appearance, as the Church did in the Apostles days, 1 *Thess.* 1. 10.

And therefore the Wrath of God hangs over them, who do not Experience the good end of the Father in sending his Son, which was to save the World, not to leave it in sin, for then it would be left to Condemnation; but he is come to ease the Creation

Creation from the heavy burden of ſin. And ſo its Chriſt the Power of God, and the Wiſdom of God, who teacheth every one that believes in him, in his own Language, according to their ſeveral Capacities, and this is the Original, which all the true Goſpel Miniſters had their Miniſtry from, in the day of the Brightneſs and Unſpottedneſs of the Church, when ſhe was a chaſte Virgin unto Chriſt, before the Enemy had dominion over theſe called *Chriſtians*; and this Original is the ſame, and changeth not, the *Alpha* and *Omega*, the beginning and the end, the firſt and the laſt, who will not give his Glory to another, nor his Praiſe unto Graven Images, *Rev.* 1. 8, 11. *Iſa.* 42. 8. And theſe have the learned Tongue, who are taught of God, whoſe preaching gives ſatisfaction to the weary Souls, who directs them where they ſhall find their Redeemer, *Iſa.* 50. 4. And theſe receives their Teſtimony immediately from Chriſt, and are true Labourers in ſeaſon and out of ſeaſon, 2 *Tim.* 4. 2. And the Feet of ſuch is beautiful upon the Mountains, who bring the glad Tidings of the day of the Lord, and of the coming of the Saviour of the World, in Power and great Glory, and this is the joyfull Goſpel of the Kingdom, in which glorious day the Line of true Judgment is ſtretched out over all Tranſgreſſion, of what nature or kind ſoever: and all ſuch as receive him who is the Seed of Life, will have the benefit of a Crucified Chriſt, and not only ſo, but of the ſame Chriſt riſen in Glory, who deſcended and aſcended up far above all Heavens, and fills all things *Epheſ.* 4. 9, 10.

And ſo Chriſt is near unto all, who waits to be gracious unto all poor Mourning Souls, that he may draw them and bring them near to himſelf, by raiſing up their Hearts out of ſin and Iniquity, and through bringing them to feel the heavy weight of their Tranſgreſſions, that they may thereby come out of the love of the World, and have no fellowſhip with the Unfruitful Works of Darkneſs; and this is the Way, by which God is redeeming his People, and many have been gathered in theſe Latter Days by him, who can ſay, they have found the Lord, † who hath ordained Peace for them; *for he works all our Works in us and for us, who is the Mediator between God and Man, the Man Chriſt Jeſus,*

† Iſa. 26. 12.

1 Tim. 2. 5. *And Heaven is his Throne, and the Earth is his Foot-stool; and he will tread down the Wicked, they shall be as Ashes under the Soles of his Feet.* And this is the Seed which God hath left us, whereby lost man may come again to God; and its for this holy Seeds sake, that Times and Seasons is prolonged to the Sons and Daughters of Men; *And if the Lord had not left us this Seed, we had all been as* Sodom, *and had been made like unto* Gomorrah, Isa. 1. 6. Rom. 9. 29. And all that believe in him as the Father hath of old ordained him, who is the Light of the *Gentiles*, and God's Covenant to the People, and Salvation to the ends of the Earth: all such will be washed and sanctified and so will be saved from being cast away, and from the great dishonour, and from being broken in pieces with the Rod of Iron; and such will have a Name and a Place in Gods House, and within his Walls better then that of Sons and Daughters, *Isa.* 56. 5. ver. 2. 27. And all that are in the Transgression, whatever they may profess, except they Repent, nothing will be able to keep them from the anger of the Lord; for what will a dark defiled Profession avail when God ariseth to Judgment, all that are found therein will not be able to escape the searching day of the Lord; *And here the Cry will be great, when there will be none to save,* Rev. 6. 15, 16, 17. Isa. 2. 19. And so as I said before, these who have believed in the spiritual appearance of Christ, are the true Witnesses or Heavenly Clouds, who are brought near to Gods Kingdom, from whence they receive their Moisture, Sap and Virtue, and so are commanded by the Lord, and sent forth into the World to drop the Testimony of Life, which the Lord hath given them, where his Power sends them, whose Love and Mercy is over all the Works of his hands; and these true Witnesses turns People from Darkness unto Light, and from the Power of Satan unto God, *Acts* 26. 18. And all the deceit of the Devil in the raging Floods and Waves of the Wickedness of these times cannot stop this Gospel of Gods Kingdom; they cannot restrain the Clouds of Heaven, but a plentifull Rain God gives unto his people in this Age of the World, and he is blessing them with the increase of Heavenly Blessings from day to day; and this everlasting Gospel must be preached unto all Nations,

that

that the Earth may bring forth Righteouſneſs, that God over all may be glorified: and all that receive this Goſpel, their Conſciences bears them witneſs in the holy Ghoſt, whoſe Power tenders their Hearts, and fills them with joy and gladneſs; and ſuch can ſing as Inhabitants of the Rock in dayes paſt, *whoſe Bread is ſure, and whoſe Water fails not*, Iſa. 42.11, 12. Iſa. 33. 16. Iſa. 42. 11.

And therefore return all you ſcattered ones, unto the holy pure Life of Jeſus, which the antient *Chriſtians* were in, in the dayes that are paſt and gone; for God's Arm and Power is certainly revealed, and the Horn of his Salvation, and all them that receive him in his ſpiritual appearance, he gives power to them, as in dayes paſt, to become the Sons of God, 1 *John* 3. 2. And all that are againſt him in his inward diſcovery in the Hearts of his People, are in the ſame ground with the blind Watch-men of Old, who could not inform the Spouſe, in the day of her Diſtreſs, where her beloved was gone, *Cant.* 3. 3. Chap. 5. 7. who had loſt the way-marks of the Flocks of his Companions, as thouſands to this very day, who know not the way of the coming of Chriſt in Spirit and in Power, who is the true healer and binder up of the ſtroke of the Wounds of the Conſcience, but daubs and heals the wounded Soul deceitfully, crying Peace, Peace, when there is none, *Whoſe Iniquity*, as ſome of them ſay, *is written in their Foreheads, and Abominations reigning in their Souls* Oh theſe are Enemies to the Life of Chriſt in this his Day, who is come to heal the Nations, in taking away the cauſe of the Wounds and Bruiſes of their Souls (which is Sin) and many Souls have found him, who is their beloved indeed: And ſo let none ſeek to limit Chriſt in his ſpiritual appearance, neither to time nor place, but all be ſtill; for he commands the Nations to be ſilent, and all the Iſlands, that the people may renew their ſtrength, *Iſa.* 41. 1. And this is known in theſe dayes wherein we live, in the deep ſilence of all Fleſh the renewings of ſtrength is witneſſed, and they that wait upon him in the retiredneſs of their minds in the Heavenly Light, *Their ſtrength ſhall be renewed, they ſhall mount up as upon the Wings of Eagles; they ſhall run and not be weary, they ſhall walk and not be faint*, Iſa. 40. 13. And

all that wait not in ſtilneſs upon the Lord, they do not know the renewings of the ſtrength of their Souls; & ſuch ſoon are weary of well doing, for they are found in the way of Backſliding, as old *Iſrael* was, who becauſe of their continual Rebellion againſt God, were appointed to a ſorrowfull end, inſomuch that the Prophet ſaid, *If I go forth into the Field, behold them that are ſlain with the Sword; If I enter into the City, behold them that be ſick of Famine.* And ſometimes that which the Prophets ſaw concerning *Iſrael* was a day of Waſting and Deſtruction, a day of Calamity and of Lamentation, Mourning and Wo, *Ezek.* 2. 10. *Jer.* 24. And God is the ſame againſt Sin as ever he was, and will in no wiſe acquit him that dyes in his Tranſgreſſion, and therefore he will yet be known as a conſuming Fire againſt all ſinfull Works; and all who build not upon the ſure Rock and Foundation Chriſt revealed in his Saints, the Day of ſhaking and breaking down is at hand, and their Mountains muſt be beaten to Duſt, and their exalted Hills to Chaff, by the threſhing Inſtrument of Worm *Jacob*, and their Heavens muſt paſs away with a great Noiſe, and with fervent Heat muſt their Elements melt, and their Earthly and their Airy things muſt be burnt up, 2 *Pet.* 3. 10. Then Wo, wo to them who are as the Clouds without Rain, and as the Wells without Water: then ſhall the wandring Stars go down into everlaſting Darkneſs, and the fruitleſs Trees, who bring forth no perfect Fruit unto God, will be cut down and caſt into the Fire.

Iſa. 41. 44.

So all you that profeſs Chriſt Jeſus, under what Name or Title ſoever is this Warning ſent, whereſoever this may come, in what part of *Chriſtendom* ſoever, who are not come to know Salvation by Chriſt Jeſus, from the Sins of the World, by one who loves his Country, and all the whole Creation: For many have been the Warnings and Invitations that have been ſent to you from the Lord through his Servants theſe many Years, both by Tongue and Pen. And this is my great deſire for all poor loſt people, who are looking abroad, and counting the Times and Seaſons which the Father hath reſerved in his own Power, leſt they miſs the coming of Chriſt in Spirit, and ſo loſe the benefit of a Saviour, as the *Jews* did concerning his coming in the Fleſh;

Fleſh; but that unto a certainty all may come, and give up to believe in their Hearts the Lord Jeſus, for its his right to Reign over all in all Hearts, and ſo will Righteouſneſs ſpring up in the Land of our Nativity; and the great Abominations will ceaſe, for which the Wrath of the Lord God is ready to break forth upon it.

And as concerning *Faith* and *Hope*, what various Opinions and Judgments is amongſt the People, ſome believing after one manner, and ſome after another, but People have loſt the Foundation of the true Faith, the Word of Faith which the Apoſtles preached, which was laid of Old by the Lord God for a Foundation in *Sion*, for a corner Stone, Elect and Precious, he that believeth on him ſhall not be aſhamed, *Iſa.* 28. 16.

So all the true believers their Faith ſtood in him, who is the Word and Power of God, by which all things were made and created, *John* 1. 3. *Col.* 1. 16. And this Word is within in the Heart, by which the Conſcience is purified, and Faith is given unto ſuch as turn to the Lord, and they know the Myſtery of Faith, according to the proportion of it, though but as a Grain of Muſtard Seed, it leads to believe a poſſibillity in overcoming Sin; ſo that no man hath any further ground to believe he ſhall be ſaved, then he comes to know the work of Chriſt within, in deſtroying Sin, which work cannot be done till Chriſt comes, neither is there any ſaving Faith or true Hope of Salvation in the Earth, until Chriſt Jeſus in ſome meaſure be known; for he is the Author and Finiſher of the Faith of his People, whoſe Faith is a holy Faith, which gives Victory over the World, *without which it is impoſſible to pleaſe God*, Heb. 11. 6. Rom. 5. 3, 4, 5. So as People come to be ſaved from Sin by Jeſus Chriſt the Foundation of God, which abides forever, their Faith comes to increaſe as they feel his Work by his Spirit in their Hearts, who changes it, and takes away the ſtony Heart out of their Fleſh; and this is a certain Faith through the operation of Gods Power, and this Faith leads out of Sin into a reſtored ſtate, from amongſt the unbelievers of the World, into the true Church who are obedient to Chriſt, who miniſters freely of his Grace unto them;

Heb. 12. 2.

Ezek. 11. 19. Col. 2. 12.

them; and this was the Faith of the antient *Chriſtians*, who laboured to keep a Conſcience void of offence in the ſight of God and Man; and all other Faiths will *Acts* 24.16. come to an end, which Chriſt is not the author and finiſher of: For the Faith of Chriſt, which the Creature comes to receive through the working of the holy Spirit, this gives dominion over the Wickedneſs of the World; but there are many will ſay *they believe in God and Jeſus Chriſt*, and make a large Confeſſion of their Faith, yet they do not overcome the Evils thats in the World, neither do they believe to the ſaving of the Soul, as the true *Chriſtians*, Heb. 10. 39. but follows the Spirit of the World, and ſo he becomes their Maſter; for of whom a man is overcome, of the ſame is he brought into Bondage. So People being overcome of the Evil one, the old ſinner, that ſinneth from the Beginning, they are in Bondage unto him, *And his Servants they are to whom they yield themſelves*, Rom. 6. 16. And although they profeſs an innocent Lamb like Chriſt, yet they do not believe in him, nor obey him, as he is ſpiritually appeared to deſtroy Sin, witneſs the daily evil actions thats found amongſt them; and ſuch do grieve the good Spirit of God from day to day, and ſuch do cauſe the juſt and the holy Lamb of God to ſuffer by their unlawful Deeds, and ſuch are without the true ſaving Faith, and the Faith they have is a Hiſtorical traditional Faith, raiſed up in the Darkneſs of the Night of Apoſtacy, from the backſliding Heart in fallen man, that ſeeks not unto the true God, but reſts in ſomething beſide the Truth, and ſits down under the Power of the Adverſary, and ſuch believe there is one God; but ſaith the Apoſtle *James*, *The Devils believe the ſame*, James 2. 19. And ſo the Drunkard, Swearer, Lyar, Covetous and Proud perſons, Whoremongers, Thieves and Murders will ſay they believe in God and Chriſt: but where theſe Sins, or any other of the works of Darkneſs is acted and done, the ſaving Faith is not lived in, which leads (as it is kept unto) to overcome the Devil, the World and the Fleſh, but happily ſome, becauſe they are not Murderers and Thieves, and the like, may account themſelves good *Chriſtians*, although they are Proud and Lofty, and of a vain Converſation;

verſation; theſe alſo are full of Defilements, and fall under the Enemies power daily, who keeps them from the Myſtery of the holy Faith that's held in a pure Conſcience; and as the Prophet ſaid concerning old *Iſrael*, who caſt the Word of God behind their Back, and lightly eſteemed the Rock of their Salvation, whoſe Day of Viſitation came to an end, whoſe return the Prophet greatly laboured for, that they might not eternally dye out of Gods favour: So may it be ſaid concerning the People called *Chriſtians*, (as in *Ezek.* 33.35.) O blackſliding *Chriſtendom*, return, return! why ſhouldſt thou be viſited in the anger of the Lord, and drink the Cup of his dreadfull Fury! Oh, why ſhouldſt thou be partaker of the Day of Calamity, when the great Viſitation of the Nations comes, and when Diſtreſs from God comes upon all Kingdoms! for a Day of Tryal is coming, and Diſtreſs draws nigh to the Nations: Oh, therefore conſider and return, leaſt the Decree be ſealed againſt thee, when the Myſtery of God ſhall be finiſhed, and the Day of Viſitation paſs over *Chriſtendom*, then he that is Unjuſt, let him be Unjuſt ſtill, and he that is Filthy, let him be Filthy ſtill, *Rev.* 22.11. *Ezek* 33.11. *Rev* 10.17. Ch. 11.8. Oh! theſe things being conſidered ſhould melt the Hearts of the People upon the Face of the Earth, where-ever they inhabit throughout the World, and all that profeſs Chriſt Jeſus, under what denomination ſoever, who have not the true ſaving Faith of Chriſt, but dead Faiths, and uncertain Hopes; all ſuch may read their Portion with them that loved and made a Lye, except they Repent, *Rev.* 22.15. So all muſt return unto the Foundation of God, out of the ſinfull World, which Founda- is placed of God in mankind to beget Faith in their hearts, which the Builders rejected in the dayes of Old, and to this day is rejected by thoſe that ſtand not in Gods Counſel, *Pſal.* 118.22. And this Word of Faith is that which opens the Heart to hear, as it is written, *Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God*, Rom. 10.17. which is the ſame that *Moſes* preached to the Church in the Wilderneſs, which ſaith, he is nigh thee in thy Heart, and in thy Mouth, *Deut.* 30.13, 14. And this is the Word of Faith which we preach, which word is livingly demon-

ſtrated

ſtrated by the Author to the *Hebrews*, *The Word of God*, ſaith he, *is quick and powerful, ſharper then any two-edged Sword, piercing even to the dividing aſſunder the Soul and Spirit, of the Joynts and Marrow, and is a diſcerner of the Thoughts and Intents of the Heart*, Heb 4. 12. And this is the ſure Foundation of the Faith of all true Believers; and without this People are groundleſs as to true Religion, and ſubject to alter and change in their Wayes and Judgments; and for want of being built upon this Rock, the Gates of Hell prevail over mankind, and People lie in danger of Deſtruction, where they cannot believe that God is at work by his Spirit in mankind this day, and therefore all their Worſhips are vain, and their Faith is vain, and preaching in vain, becauſe they are in their Sins, 1 *Cor.* 15. 14, 17. And this Word of Faith was with *Abell* and *Noah*, and it was a teacher, and a help, and ſuccor to Gods people in the old World; and this was their Guide, and the Rule of their Faith before Writing was, and the Scriptures teſtify of it; and this made *Noah* an Heir of the Righteouſneſs which is by Faith, by which he condemned the old World, *Gen.* 6. 13. *Heb.* 11. 7. And this is the ſame that appeared to *Abraham*, in which his Faith ſtood, and he believed God, and it was reckoned to him for Righteouſneſs: and this is the Seed wherein all Nations ſhall be bleſſed, *Gal.* 3. 16. So God left ſomething of himſelf unto mankind in every Age, which is the innocent Seed and Word of God, which of his infinite love and mercy he hath ſown in mankind, that thereby they might be ſaved; and this was the Faith of the Elders and Prophets, who were of undaunted Spirits in their day and time, who became conquerors over the Ungodly through many Sufferings and hardſhips, who indured tryals of cruel Mockings, were Tempted, were Slain with the Sword, were ſawn aſſunder, others were Tortured, not accepting deliverance, becauſe they believed and hoped for a better Reſurrection, *Heb.* 11. 35. And ſo the true Faith is more precious then Gold; and this was the Faith the Apoſtles and Primitive *Chriſtians* were in, which Faith doth work by Love, *Gal.* 5. 6. and theſe who kept the Faith, were conquerors through Chriſt, who is the author and finiſher of it, *Heb.* 12. 2. and its a lively

Faith

Faith which leads into good Works, and all ſinful Faiths will fail, & come to end. And whilſt the *Chriſtians* ſtood in their Obedience, they overcame their Souls Enemy, the roaring Lyon, that goes about Night and Day ſeeking whom he may devour: But afterwards there aroſe another kind of People, under pretence of *Chriſtianity*, which made Shipwrack of Faith and a good Conſcience, 1 *Tim.* 1. 19. who turned into the way of *Balaam*, *Jude* 10. and *Cain* and *Core*; and this was the beginning of the falling away of the People called *Chriſtians*: And ſo the Spirit of *Antichriſt* got into the Profeſſion of *Chriſtianity*, as the Apoſtle ſaid, *In Words they profeſs they know God, but in Works they deny him*, Tit. 1. 16. And there are many ſuch this day, and in that ſinful ſtate expect the benefit of a Saviour, and yet will plead for Sin till Death, contrary to the Scriptures, as Chriſt ſaith, *If ye believe not that I am he, you ſhall dye in your Sins, and whither I go, thither ye cannot come*, John 8. 21. By which you may learn that the true Believers do not dye in Sin; but they that dye in Sin are Unbelievers: and ſo a ſinful Profeſſion and a ſinful Faith, which leads into a ſinful Life, and ſo to a ſinful Death, will not free from the fulfilling of theſe words of Chriſt, *Whither I go, thither ye cannot come.* Which is to ſeperate them from his preſence, and from his peaceable Kingdom forever: But ſuch as believe in Chriſt, who is the Light and Life of men, whoſe Faith ſtands in his Power, they overcome the Devil, and forſake him and all his Works, and they come to be freed from Condemnation; and they ſhall not come to that ſad and woful end with the Unbelievers, but they ſhall be prepared for Gods Kingdom, who walk in the way of Holineſs, and obey the Goſpel, God will not appear againſt them in Flames of burning Fire and puniſhment to Eternity, but he will gather them nearer and nearer to himſelf, and will ſay unto them, *Come, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you before the Foundation of the World*, Matth. 25. 34. 1 Tim. 4. 24. 2 Theſ. 1. 8, 9, 10. And ſo there is nothing will ſave, but as all believe in this Living Word and Spirit of Grace in their Hearts, that alone gives Dominion over Sin, and leads out of all Sinful wayes; and all muſt come to the Obedienee of Faith, and not

 follow

follow the Example of those that turned from Christ, and made Shipwrack of Faith and a good Conscience, whose Words did eat like a Canker, 2 *Tim.* 2. 17, 18. lest you dye in your Sins, and be like the Hypocrite, who hath no Faith nor *Prov.* 11. 7. Hope in his Death; and so many thousands are in the Apostacy, denying the Work of Christ in Spirit, who like *Balaam*, can tell of the Good and Happy End of the Righteous, and desire to dye the Death of the Righteous, and that their latter end may be like his: but there is none can dye that Death, nor come to that Good & Happy End, but such as live Righteously, Godly and Soberly in this present World; and such will dye in the Lord, & their Works shall follow them, *Rev.* 14. 13. And therefore such as are the true Believers have cause to magnifie the Name of the Lord, who hath graciously appeared to the discovering of this Holy Foundation, which was as the Woman's lost piece in the House, and like the goodly Pearl which the Merchant-man found, and sold all he had for the sake of it; even so these who have found this blessed Seed, and have believed in it, who can give up all for the sake of it; these can in Faithfulness say as the Woman did to her Neighbours, when she had lighted the Candle and swept her House, *Come, rejoyce with me, for I have found the piece which I had lost.* And this leads the true Believers into true Peace, and quiet Consciences they come to enjoy, which is very precious, and this gives an entrance into the true Rest, as it is written, *We that do believe, do enter into Rest*, Heb. 4. 3. And this Faith will remain, because the Foundation of it is sure; but lost man by his Earthly Wisdom hath found out new Faiths, and new Wayes of Worship since the Apostles dayes, like old *Israel* in the time of their Rebellion against the Lord, who formed Gods of their own, new God, that came newly up, whom their Fathers knew not, *Deut.* 32. 15, 16, 17, 18. But the Foundation of God, Christ Jesus, the Author and Finisher of the Faith of his People stands sure; having this Seal, the Lord knows them that are his, and *let all that name the Name of Christ depart from Iniquity*, 2 Tim. 2. 9. And all Faiths and Worships that are made by lost man in the Fall, by his polluted Wisdom, will fail and pass away, because its but a dead Historical

cal Faith, not attended with those Heavenly Virtues the true Faith is attended withal, 2 *Pet.* 1. 5, 6, 7. For where the true Faith is wanting, the saving Knowledge of Christ is wanting, and true Temperance, and Patience, and Brotherly-kindness, and Charity, these things are wanting, and finally, true Love decayes and withers from amongst the People: So those who have been forming of Faiths in the Night of Darkness, have been in the Enmity and Malice Persecuting of the Lords Heritage from Age to Age; whereas they who were true Believers in Christ in time past, their Faith did work by Love, and to this day the true Faith works by Love; the work of which is in the redeemed Ones truly experienced, which leads to love one another, in that love wherewith Christ loved us, to true stayedness of mind upon the Lord, and so into a true establishment in the Truth; and this leads on in the way of Life and Peace, and brings the Creature to a certain hope of Eternal Salvation, through a daily experience in the patient Lamb-like Life of the working of the saving preserving Power of Christ Jesus, over the Power of Darkness: And here the Souls of the faithful are staid to the Rock, by the sure Hope, which is an as Anchor both sure and steadfast, which holds fast from being overcome by the Adversary, untill all the Storms and Tempests, and Winterly seasons be over, & the time of singing of Birds come, and the Voice of the Turtle be heard, *Can.* 1. 11, 12. And so the Redeemed sing of the Mercies and Goodness of the Lord in the Land of the Living, and such can tell of his wondrous Works, and of his noble Acts, whose Armour is the Armour of Light, whose Faith is a Shield & a Defence unto them, and whose Hope is a Helmet, and the Word of God is their Sword; and here they are fitted for the Spiritual War-fare, and such can go forth against their Souls Enemy with boldness, and pulling down the strong Holds of Satan, and bringing every rebellious Thought into Obedience to Christ, 2 *Cor.* 10. 4, 5.

And these things are of a weighty concernment, for hereby a man must travil towards God's Kingdom, and hereby he must overcome his Soul's Enemys, and as he keeps this precious Faith, and holds fast the Hope of his Confidence in Christ unto the

End: So is he preſerved and kept by the Power of God, *through Faith unto Salvation*, 1 Pet. 1. 5. And hereby the mind and affections come to be gathered out of the Earth, and ſetled upon things above, and ſo the Heart comes to be prepared for the Lord, and ſuch come to know the worſhip of the Father in the Spirit and in the Truth; and this leads into a true Subjection unto the Lord, in the Life of Sanctification, both in Body, Soul and Spirit, where the Seal of the New Covenant comes to be known, where God blots out the ſins of his people, *and their Inquities I will remember no more*, ſaith the Lord: Jer. 31. 34. And ſuch may come with boldneſs before the Throne of his Grace, that they may receive help and ſtrength in time of need, 2 *Cor.* 1. 20. *Epheſ.* 6. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. 2 *Cor.* 7. 1. *Col.* 3. 1, 2. But ſuch as are Fearful and Unbelieving, whoſe Faith ſtands not in God's Power, who are at all opportunities falling under the ſinful power of the Enemy, and ſo are in a ſeparated ſtate from God, in an Unholy Unſanctified Life; theſe may (with the Wicked and Abominable) read their Portion, *Rev.* 21. 8. And where this ſaving Faith and Hope is wanting, there can be no ſtanding in Righteouſneſs, though there may be a deſire in many after Gods Kingdom, and to be ſaved from Wrath to come, yet whilſt this ſinful Spirit Rules and hath Dominion in their Hearts, though never ſo high in Profeſſion, the Wrath of God is over them, and becauſe of Unbelief, they lie under Condemnation, *John* 3. 18. and the defiled Heart and Mind ſtill receives the Baits of the Enemy, and ſo is deceived by his allurements, which works in the deceitful ſinful Heart, begetting firſt an inclination after Evil, and ſo raiſeth an Affection unto it, and ſo to an intent and purpoſe to do Evil, and this is hatcht in the evil Heart; and as the mind yields to the Temptation of the Enemy, ſo the Creature is overcome; and Luſt, when it is conceived brings forth Sin, and Sin, when it is finiſhed brings forth Death, *James* 1. 17. But as the mind and heart turns to the Principle of Eternal Light (which diſcovers the Temptation) which is the Word and Foundation before ſpoken of, and believes in it, the Devil's Work comes then to be ſtopt, and Judgment is executed upon him, and hereby the Soul comes

to

to be ſaved from Sin, and ſo eſcapes the ſnare of its great Adverſary; and this is through believing in the Light of Chriſt Jeſus, in which is ſtrength to reſiſt the Devil and make him flee: but whoſoever reſiſts the motion of the Power and Operation of God in the Light, the Enemy is too hard for them. And ſo the Creature becomes actual in that Work *which God's Wrath is revealed againſt*, Rom. 1. 18. And ſuch are under Satans Power, who intends the Deſtruction both of Body and Souls: And here the poor Creature is intangled as a Fly in a Spiders Web, not knowing how to get forth from under Satans Power, becauſe the nature of ſin ſo overcomes him, and ſlays every good deſire in his Heart until he becomes dead to God, and buried in ſinful pleaſures and delights of this wicked World, out of the very remembrance of the Life to come, and ſuch mind not the things belonging to their Souls Peace, but go on in ſin from day to day, as if they had not Souls that are Immortal; and if theſe come not to ſpeedy Repentance, their Wound will be Incurable, and they will run out their days in the broad Way, until they come to the Lake of *Fire, burning with Brimſtone, where their Worm dyeth not, neither is their Fire quenched, out of which there is no Redemption, and from whence there will be no return*, Iſa. 66. 24. Mark 9. 44. Mat. 7. 13, 14. James 4. 7.

And a great company in this Nation are in that forgetful ſtate and condition, whoſe day haſtens apace towards an end, and the time cometh ſwiftly upon them, wherein they muſt give account for the Deeds done in the Body, and they cannot eſcape the Terrible Day of the Lord, wherein the ſtream of his Indignation will reach unto all the Ungodly, and unto all that hold the Truth in Unrighteouſneſs; becauſe that *which may be known of God is manifeſt in them, for God hath ſhewed it unto them*, Rom. 1. 18, 19. Iſa. 30. 33. 2 Cor. 5. 10.

Others get up into high Exaltation of Mind, in a Profeſſion of Chriſt Jeſus; and theſe, notwithſtanding are found Pleaders for Sin, and Oppoſers of the Work of God's Spirit in themſelves and others, and are not come to the Faith of the Operation of God; and ſo are Oppoſite to the true Believers, both in Principle and Practice: And theſe think they have found out ſomething

thing more Eminent, which they hold forth for Doctrine, from their own earthly Wisdom and Comprehension. And here the great swelling words proceed from the earthly Wisdom, and such follow them who turned aside out of the right Way, and had but the outside profession, and the words, but not the life and power, *who led away silly Women laden with Sin, who were ever learning, but never able to come to the knowledge of the Truth.*

2 Tim. 3. 6. 2 Cor. 13. 5. So all had need to Try themselves, as the Apostle said, *Examine your selves whether you are in the Faith; what, know you not Christ is in you, except you be Reprobates?* So this is the true Faith, and the true Knowledge, to know Christ's Power and Spirit within; and all that want this Faith, and this Knowledge of Christ,

Mat. 17. 20. will never overcome. And therefore take heed, O all People! lest you have no Faith in your Latter End, to lead you to lay down your heads in Peace with God, *when the Mourners go about the Streets, and man goes to his long Home,* Eccl. 12. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

So all must come to Christ the Foundation, who by his Spirit begets Faith in the Heart; and let all Teachers and others, under what Name or Title soever, take heed, who boast of Baptism & the Lords Supper, & of Faith & Hope, whilst in a sinful state: O here you do but deceive your selves, for all worship & services which are out of the Spirit of Holiness, are not owned by the Lord; neither can such enjoy the *Comforter*, whilst

Rom. 14. 23. in that state, but are feeding upon that which is not of Faith, and whatsoever is not of Faith is sin; signifying that the true Faith is not a sinful Faith, but is a most holy Faith,

Jude 1. 20. which the people of God build up one another in; and this is the Faith which the people in scorn called *Quakers* do truly own, whom the Lord hath gathered in this his Day, and he hath not only given us to believe, but also to suffer for his sake, which Faith works by Love, and leads into the Unity of the Spirit, and this is the Way to Perfect Holiness in God's Fear, and so to grow in Grace, and to become wise in the Mystery of God's Kingdom; and we have hope in Christ; yea, an Everlasting Hope, which purifies the Heart, and our

Hope

Hope is ſure; and this is brought in, in this Day of the Everlaſting Covenant of God, which makes Perfect, as pertaining to the Conſcience, which Chriſt is the fulneſs of, and our Hope of Salvation ends in nothing ſhort of him, who is our Eternal Riches, and endleſs Hope of Glory, who is come to take his poſſeſſion and to reign, whoſe right it is, who is that little Stone, which *Daniel* ſaw cut out of the Mountain without hands, *which became a very great Mountain and filled the whole Earth*, Dan. 2. 35. that thereby Faith, Patience, Love and Unity might ſpring up amongſt the Children of men, and Sin and Wickedneſs come to an end, and that the Unbelieving Serpent that leads out of the Way to Heaven may be deſtroyed forever; and ſo ſhall the Earth bring forth Holineſs, and the Hearts of Men and Women be filled with Joy and Conſolation from the Living God, who is come and coming to break down all Deceit and Hypocriſie, and he will prevail over the mighty in the Diſpenſation of time, and will ſhew himſelf the only *Potentate, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords*, 1 Tim. 6. 15. Heb. 1. 19.

Now there is no Way to come out of the Unbelieving, Sinful World, but by Jeſus Chriſt, whoſe Light ſhines from Heaven into the inward parts of Mankind (as I ſaid before) by which Light loſt Man, as he believes in it, is brought Home out of the Deſart and Wilderneſs of the World, and out of all Dark Dangerous Ways and By-paths of the Adverſary, wherein he leads on the Rebellious to Deſtruction, and this diſcovers the way and working of the Enemy, and this ſhews unto Man and Woman what is Good and what is Evil, and ſets the Way of Life before them, and lets them ſee the Way of Death, *Deut.* 30. 15, 19. to the end. That they may chuſe Life and Peace with God, and forſake all the Ways and Works of Sin and Wickedneſs, which lead out of Peace and Favour with him, *becauſe of which Tribulation and Anguiſh comes upon their Souls*, Rom. 2. 8, 9. And this Light is of the ſame property that the Scriptures declare it to be; *For all things that's reproveable is made manifeſt by the Light*; *and whatſoever doth make manifeſt is Light*, Epheſ. 5. 13. Signifying, that the Enemy doth not Diſcover his own Works which he begets in Mankind, but that which doth Diſcover his Workings within, in the Heart, is the Light

Light of Christ,& this lets Man & Woman see themselves as they are, and brings them to feel the weight of their Transgressions, and sets them in the view of their own Conditions; and when they thus come to see themselves in a lost Estate, and how they have Defiled themselves and Corrupted themselves with their Evil-doings, then shall they come to loath themselves in their own sight, and then *Sin becomes a Burden, which can no longer be born*, Ezek. 36. 31. And this which begets a secret Cry in the Heart after the Lord is God's Unspeakable Love to lost man (that hath lost himself by reason of many sins) to place such a certain Principle of Life in his Conscience, which shews unto him his secret Thoughts, *Amos* 4. 13. And this was the way by which Lost Man came to God out of the Fall in all Ages of the World; but the Universal Discovery in the large Dispensation of it is revealed more especially in these Gospel-Times, which was held forth unto Mankind, signified and figured out by many Types, Figures and Shadows in the former Ages of the World, as the Old Covenant, the Law was outward, and the Tabernacle was outward, and the Anointing, and the Light, and the Sacrifices, and the Sprinkling of the Blood of the Old-Covenant was outward. But now in the New-Covenant the sprinkling of the Blood of Jesus, which is his Life, whereby Remission of sins is obtained, is within, *which purgeth the Conscience from dead works to serve the Living God*, Heb. 9. 14. And this is the substance and the fulfilling of the sprinkling of the Blood of Bulls and Goats in the Old-covenant; and the first Priesthood was to be anointed with an outward anointing: But the Priesthood in the New-covenant, is to be anointed with the spiritual Anointing, without which all preaching is vain. And this anointing is that which Christ gives, which the true Believers receive of him, which is a sufficient Teacher; *and this Anointing abides in them*, 1 John 2. 27. And this is the Unction they have with the holy One, whereby they know all things that appertain to Life and Godliness, *1 John* 2. 20. And so the Lamp in the Old-covenant was outward, but the Lamp in the New-covenant is inward, which is to hold the spiritual anointing Oyl, and the Light in the New-covenant is a spiritual divine Light, because the Worship in the New-

2 Pet. 1. 3.

covenant

covenant is ſpiritual, which ſhines in the inward ſpiritual Temple. Therefore all that Oppoſe and Vilifie the Light, are not learned of the Father, for *every one*, ſaith Chriſt, *that hath heard and learned of the Father cometh unto me*, Joh. 6. 45. And ſuch as come to know their Bodies to be the Temples of the holy Ghoſt, they know the Light that ſhines in them is of God, which diſcovers their moſt ſecret Troughts, and they know the Redeeming, Saving Power of it in all needful times to preſerve them and keep them from falling into ſin, and this ſhines forth out of the Incomprehenſible fulneſs of God, whoſe dwelling is in Light and in Eternal Brightneſs, and there is not another Way that leads to Eternal Life.

And ſo the firſt Covenant was changeable, and the Offerings and divers Waſhings, and Carnal Ordinances, and the Worldly Sanctuary; theſe things were to continue but for a ſeaſon and time, but the great Ordinance of God, Jeſus Chriſt, who fulfills the Shadows and Figures, he remains forever, and his Prieſthood is Everlaſting, becauſe he remains and abides forever, and his Law is Spiritual, which is more forcible then the Law written in Tables of Stone, which could not free from Sin; but this ſpiritual Law in the Heart, according to the antient promiſe of God, makes free from the Law of Sin and Death, *Rom.* 8. 2. and the extent of this ſpiritual Miniſtration, and of this holy Law (within) in Chriſt Jeſus, is more Univerſal then the outward Law, for that was only given to *Iſrael* after the Fleſh, but this Law of Life and of Love in Chriſt Jeſus, reacheth unto both *Jew* and *Gentile*, Male and Female: and ſo the Goſpel Diſpenſation is unto all both Old and Young, Son and Daughter, Servant and Hand-maid, *Joel* 2.28. And ſo all that believe in the Light & walk in it, they come to a clear ſight of theſe things, & to know the Lords Houſe, which he is building with living Stones, which is his Church, which he fills and will fill with his Glory; but ſuch as are darkened in their Underſtandings, and have loſt this living way and the living Faith, are Enemies to the appearance of Chriſt, and denyes the Light to be the way of God, crying againſt it as inſufficient, and are not content nor ſatisfied at the appearance of Chriſt in Spirit, no more then the *Jews* were

at his coming in the Flesh, who although they waited for the coming of the Messiah Night and Day, yet when he came they did not believe in him, nor receive him, but Crucified him, and hanged him on a Tree, *Matth.* 27. 22, 35. And so its very common with lost man to fall into a state of mumuring, & repining against God, through the discontentedness of his Evil Heart, who likes not to retain God in their Knowledge, because of their vain Imaginations, through which their fooliſh Hearts are darkened, who are not content to be subject unto God in that way wherein he is pleased to make known himself to the Children of men: For the *Jews* of Old had the tender Visitation of God's Love sent unto them by the Prophets, but they slew them, and received not the Message of God he sent unto them, although they declared the things relating to their everlasting Peace from Age to Age, that they might not dye in their Sins, but they loved their own Wayes and chose their own Doings, and so slighted the day of their Visitation; and when Christ came, according to the appointment of the Father, in the fulness of time, see how they were in a murmuring repining Nature, ready to commend rather the appearance of God unto the Prophets, and said, *If we had lived in the dayes of our Fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the Blood of the Prophets.* Although they were in the same Nature, and of the same Spirit their Fathers were, *Matth.* 23. 30. as afterward it appeared, notwithstanding their fair pretence in Words, yet they laid Hands on Christ Jesus, and put him to Death; and now after his Resurrection and Ascention, being glorified with the same Glory he had with the Father before the World began, whose Light shines forth from the Throne of his Glory into the Hearts of all Men and Women: Now the discontented Professors are at Variance with it in themselves, and them that believe in it; and will not let his Light and Spirit have place and room in their Hearts, no more then the *Jews* would let him have room in the Inn, in the Day when he was Born of the Virgin *Mary*, *Luke* 2. 7. And now some would have a Personal appearance, and a Body again, but they cannot discern his Body, until they come to his Light, that thereby they may receive a Heavenly sight and understanding

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ing of the things of God; and so in the Regeneration being Born again here they come to discern the Lords Body, & know a Spiritual feeding upon that which is Meat indeed and Drink indeed, *Joh.* 6.33,34,35,36. But this hath been the way of lost man from the Darkness of his fallen mind from time to time, who is ready to confess to the appearance of God, and his mighty Works in times past, but is still ignorant of the Way and Work of God in his present Age and Generation; and not only Ignorant and an Enemy to the appearance of Christ in himself, but is filled with Envy against the very Way wherein God is known and truly Worshipped in and by his People; and this hath been the Deceit of the Devil from Generation to Generation, and that same Spirit in the *Jews* that hated the appearance of God in the Prophets of Old, and was discontented in those daye, was the same that hated Christ Jesus in the dayes of his Flesh, and led the *Jews* to kill him; and the same Spirit, though under another Colour and Covering, have rul'd in those called *Christians*, who have been Killing, and Persecuting, and Torturing about Religion in this dark Night of Apostacy since the Apostles days, and that which Persecutes and Envyes, and fills with Pride, and leads after the Glory of the World, and sets up and exalts Self, this is against the appearance of Christ in Spirit, and such cry out against the Light, being in a ground of Unrighteousness, and of a polluted and darkened Understanding; for its those that do Evil that hate the Light, neither come they unto it, lest thereby their Deeds should be reproved, *John* 3.20. And this is a certain Testimony unto all People, that whosoever come to Salvation, and to inherit the Kingdom of God must come to the Light, and believe in it, because there is no other way; for Christ (being the Light) is the Way, and none can come to the Father but by him, *John* 14.6. And all such as come to him will be satisfied concerning the things pertaining to Everlasting Life, being in obedience unto him; for they that obey him shall know his Doctrine, *John* 17.16,17. And this is safe for all, and this will be your Wisdom, O ye People, to try and prove the Light by subjecting your Wills to

Prove all things, hold fast that which is good. 1 Thes. 5.21.

the will of God in it, and so come to the Example of the Antients, who were Fathers and Patriarchs in the Church in the days of Old; and you may read how the Lord appeared unto *Moses* in a flame of Fire in a Bush, when he fed the Flock of *Jethro* his Father in Law by the back side of the Desart, and came to *Horeb* the Mount of God: Now *Moses* knew not the Power that was in that appearance, until he turned to it; for said he, *I will now turn and see this great Light, why the Bush burns and is not consumed*, Exod. 3. 1, 2, 3. And so the Lord beheld his Heart, and saw his tender desire, & made known himself unto him. And so let all People who are of tender Hearts, when they are alone, though but in a Desart, seeking after the Lord, meditating upon the things pertaining to Everlasting Life, according to their knowledge, when the Light of Christ within them shews them the Barrenness and Nakedness of their Souls, and Poverty of their Spirits, and many times in fears and doubtings in secret, what their end will be, because Sin yet stands between them and the Lord; Oh be still, and sondrous, and wait in the Light in such a Season as this; for God commands all to be silent before him, that the People may renew their Strength: and there is no other way to come to know the Souls strength to be renewed but as all wait upon the Lord, and as all abide in the inward retiredness of their Minds in the Light, they will come to know and feel the great Sufferings of the Seed of Spiritual *Israel*, as *Moses* was made sensible of the Sufferings of the Seed of outward *Israel* in the Land of *Ægypt*, and with *Moses* will be made willing to suffer Persecution with the People of God, rather then enjoy the Pleasures of Sin for a Season: and so Christ Jesus redeems and saves out of Spiritual *Ægypt*, and from Spiritual Bondage and Captivity, and he preaches Deliverance to the Spirits that are in Prison; for he is risen, and he appeared soon after his Resurrection and Ascention, in Spirit, to the quickening of many unto God, that were dead in Sins and Trespasses. And so the teaching of God is known in the Light, and such as go from it will Perish; for there is no Peace to the Soul, but as it knows the Testimony of Gods love in

Isa. 41. 1.

1 *Pet.* 3. 18. 19.

in Christ Jesus unto it, and so the flowings of Heavenly Peace will be known, according to Gods promise, *Isa.* 66. 12.

But there have been many Objections raised amongst the People concerning this Light, because its that which every Man and Woman hath a measure of, and some are ready to say, *If there be sufficiency in it, and Salvation*, &c. *why then are we not saved by it?* Not considering how they are disobedient to it; and some have concluded it to be only the Dictates of a Natural Conscience, and so insufficient for Salvation. Now here was the great mistake of the *Jews* of Old concerning his coming in the Flesh, they rendred him as weak, and called him the Carpenters Son, and some said one thing of him, and some another; and so those that did not believe in him, but were disobedient unto him, they undervalued him in the dayes of his Flesh, as some have done in this his Spiritual appearance, that have never proved the Light and Spirit of Christ, nor believed in it, but have reasoned so much about it, till they be filled with Envy and Malice against it, that if it were possible they would so extinguish it, that it should never shine more, as the angry *Jews* cryed out, *Away with him, and release to us* Barabbas. *Luke* 23. 18. But some received him, and they sung Praises and Hallelujahs unto him, for which cause the Unbelievers Envyed them; but said Christ, *If these should hold their Peace, the Stones would immediately cry out*, Mark 11. 9. Luke 19. 40. And see how they tempted him, & said, *If he be the Christ, let him come down from the Cross, and we believe him*, Mat. 27. 42. And although there was in Christ Jesus all the Treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge, and whatsoever is necessary and needful to Salvation; yet those that did not believe in him had not the benefit of it, neither were they saved by him, and so mist their opportunity, and raged and railed against him, and said, *he had a Devil*, and the like, till they had sinned out their Day, and were appointed to a Miserable End, *Luke* 19. 27. And so many there are that through the Enmity that lodgeth in them, through a dependancy upon their Carnal Wisdom, which fails in finding out the

See the great Ignorance & Darkness of these Professors.

things

things of God, and come short of understanding the Way of Salvation; I say such may be so confident that the Light is not the Way of Life, and so may preach against it, and write against it, as the *Jews* were, that said, Jesus was not the Christ, who said, *His Blood be upon us, and upon our Children*, Matth. 27. 39. until they fill up the measure of their Iniquities, as they did.

And therefore be warned, all you that Oppose the Appearance of Christ in Spirit, and undervalue the Teachings of the holy Ghost, lest you fall into that great unpardonable Sin, which, as Christ said, *shall never be forgiven in this World, nor in the World to come*, Mat. 12. 32. And surely many will have hard work to escape the danger of it in the Day of Account, that thus speak reproachfully of the Living, Saving Light of Jesus, which reproves for sin in the Conscience, as some have said, *Its of the Devil, and so is of a dangerous Tendency, and the Teachings of it Diabolical Insinuations*, and the like. Oh! these be hard Speeches indeed! Will not the Lord judge for these things? and such were called *Ungodly Sinners, which Christ is to Execute Judgment upon*, Jude 15. But however such may Blaspheme the worthy Name of Christ, yet they shall one day bow unto it, and be made to confess unto it, to their Eternal Sorrow, when they shall receive the Sentence, according to their hard Speeches they have spoken against him; but as sure as that was Jesus the Christ of God, which was Crucified without the Gates of *Jerusalem*, and buried, and rose again the third day, according to the Scriptures, who ascended up on high, and sits in Glory at the right hand of the Father; so certain it is that his Light and Spirit comes down into the Hearts of the Sons and Daughters of men, and that Light which discovers unto Man and Woman the Evil of their Hearts, is as certainly of God, and is of Power and Efficacy to save from sin, as ever God made man upon the Earth; and it is the Seed Immortal whereby the creation must be eased of the Burden of Sin: And therefore all that oppose it, and set themselves against it, the Lord will be too hard for them; they may (as the old *Pharisees* did) endeavour to shut

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the Kingdom againſt Men, and many they may hinder from entring in, and like the blind Guides of old, who cannot ſee the Door, but climb up another way, and ſo become Thieves and Robbers; and like the old Apoſtate *Jews*, ſteal the Word from their Neighbours, and ſo Rob God of his Glory, and ſtand in the way to keep the People from coming to the Son of his Love, and ſet Bryars and Thorns in the Way of the Lord, and build up many ſinful performances, till it become as the Tower of *Babel*, but the Lord will Confound and Break all down before his glorious Power, *John* 10. 1. and the Lord will find out man where-ever he hides himſelf; therefore let none deceive themſelves, for God will not be mocked, whatſoever a man ſows that ſhall he alſo reap. And ſo turn to the heavenly Record of the Son of God within, that you may come to bear his Image; for as he was Meek and Lowly, Patient and Long-ſuffering in the Days of his Fleſh, ſo his Light and Spirit teacheth his people to be, who was a ſuffering Seed, bruiſed and ſlain by the wicked actions of men, from the Foundation of the World: and thoſe who believe not in him and obey him, they are his Enemies, and their Names are not in the Record of Life: Therefore all return and come unto him, for his Call is gone forth, whoſoever will may come and drink of the Water of Life freely; and this is his day, wherein he is come and coming to try the Nations, and the Day of Vengeance is in his Heart, for the Year of his redeemed is come, and they that fear his Name are his Witneſſes, upon whom the Glorious Sun-beames of his Eternal Love is riſen, even the Beams of the Sun of Righteouſneſs who is riſen *with healing under his Wings*, Mal. 4. 2. Iſa. 63. 4. Who in this his Day will come upon Princes, as upon Morter. Therefore doth my Heart Lament, and my Soul Mourn in ſecret for the ſad Eſtate of the people of the Land of my Nativity, for whom I am greatly concerned, becauſe of the Anger of the Lord of Hoſts, which will paſs through Nations and Kingdoms as a conſuming Fire amongſt the Stubble that's almoſt fully dry, for the Minds and Hearts of people are greatly corrupted, they are in the driven-out ſtate, in the curſed Earth, as old *Adam*, when his Soul died Matth. 23. 16.

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to the enjoyment of God's Presence, and this is because of Transgression, which Ground and cursed Earth is more especially in mans Heart, which receives the Serpents Evil Seed, from which all manner of Ungodliness springs and grows, which Ground brings forth nothing but what is to be consumed as Bryars and Thorns, and the like; here Unbelief springs, and this is the Evil Heart *that departs from the Living God*, Heb. 3.12. And here the saving Faith is not known, nor the Work of his holy Spirit, and the Evil Heart is the place where the Devil conceives all manner of sin, and begets inordinate Lusts and vile Affections; and this the whole Earth is filled withal, which causeth barrenness and leanness of Soul to the Children of men; and so the Land is full of Bryars and Thorns, Swearing, Lying, Killing, Stealing, Pride, Covetousness, Drunkenness, Whoredom and all manner of Uncleanness, and these great Abominations are become the great Fashion of the most part of people in our Age and Generation Well said the Apostle to the Saints of old, *Fashion not your selves according to the World, for the fashion of this World passeth away*. So these things are to be consumed, and they must pass away and come to an end, for here thousands are lost, and in a Wilderness amongst Bryars and Thorns. And no marvel that there is such a hard Cry amongst the people of their *Miserable Estate!* Its high time to call to God for Mercy: Sad is your Condition indeed, who are like lost Sheep upon Barren Mountains in the thick Darkness: Oh! Return, return by Repentance! Come to the blessed Light of Christ Jesus; and so will you know the true Shepherd, and then you will be changed, and the cursed Ground will be removed, the Evil Heart that receives the Serpents Seed, and all will be good again, as in the beginning: and so Christ the Divine Light will be a hiding place unto all such from the Wrath to come, as *Noah*'s Ark was to him in the old World, in which he was preserved from the Flood that came over all the Earth, by which the Rebellious (the Thoughts of whose Hearts were Evil before the Lord continually) were destroyed, *Gen.* 6. 5, 6, 7, 17. From which Destruction none by flying to the Hills and Mountains could be preserved: And sin

1 Pet. 1. 14.

and

and wickedneſs hath again gone over the World, and God ſees that the Wickedneſs of man is great; and therefore over all, as well ſinful Profeſſions as other ſinful Works, will the Judgment paſs through the Nations and Kingdoms of the World; for the tops of their Mountains are defiled, their beſt Performances and their holy Duties ſin: Therefore over all ſin will the Lord rain down his Indignation, *which ſhall reſt upon it until it receive its Reward*, Rom. 6. 23. 118

And in a deep Conſideration of theſe Things, a Neceſſity lies upon me to Declare this to my Conuntry-men, and unto all in what Part of *Chriſtendom* ſoever this may come, That the Jealous God is riſen and ariſing, and who oever ſet Bryars and Thorns againſt him, whoſoever ſet up ſinful Doctrines and uſe corrupt Arguments, and ſo riſe up againſt the Lord and againſt his Anointed, the Lord will go through like an Armed man, and like a Gyant refreſht with Wine, and conſume together both them and all their Bryars, and he will bring Terror upon the Ungodly, which ſhall reach to the breaking down of the high and mighty Tower of *Babel*, the great City of Confuſion, wherein lies the Blood of the Innocent, for which God hath her in remembrance to *bring the Day of perpetual Calamity upon her*, Rev. 18. 21. *And the Dread of the Lord ſhall be upon all the Workers of Iniquity, when they ſhall cry to the Mountains, fall upon us, and to the Rocks, hide us and cover us from the Face of him that ſits upon the Throne, and from the Wrath of the Lamb*, Rev. 6 15, 16. Therefore let all be bowed down before the Living God, for neither Mountains nor Towers, which men raiſe in their Imagmations for a Munition will hide or preſerve them in the Day of the Lord, no more than the Mountains and Hills could preſerve the people in the Old World. Oh! then bleſſed will all be that return to the Covenant of God, the Everlaſting Light of Chriſt Jeſus, the Antient ſtrong Hold of the Daughter of *Zion*, and therein keep their Habitations, where over all Fears and from all Dangers they will be preſerved, where no Hurt can come to the Soul, whatever the Body may ſuffer here; ſuch will be kept in a ſafe dwelling, within the certain Munition, which God hath prepared for them, where the

pure ſtreams of his Love run ſweetly as the ſoft waters of *Shiloh*, by which they are ſweetly refreſht and comforted, and ſo reſt together as Sheep gathered by the Great Shepherd, who is their Biſhop, and heavenly King, and great Law-giver, *Whoſe Power, Vertue and heavenly Dominion is made known in the Light of his beloved Son, in which his redeemed Ones can Rejoyce, and ſing Praiſes to him that lives and raigns forever*, Rev. 5. 14. 1 Pet. 2. 25.

And whereas ſome have ſaid, *That the Light is a New Thing, or not preached before the People called* Quakers *aroſe*: But you may read in the Scriptures of the Antiquity of it, and what they were led into, who did not obey it, and what great Evils were pronounced againſt ſuch as rebelled againſt it, and how full of Envy they were, how they cauſed the Needy to lodge without Cloathing, and took the Widows Ox for a pledge, and pluckt the Fatherleſs from the Breaſt, & took the Sheaf from the Hungry; theſe be they that rebel againſt the Light, that know not the Ways thereof, nor abide in the Paths thereof; ſignifying, That ſuch as believe in the Light, they come to bring forth better Fruits than theſe, *Job* 24. 7, 8, 9, 10, 13. And ſad was the portion of them that rebelled againſt the Light, *whoſe roots ſhall dry up from beneath, and from above their Branches ſhall be cut off; who ſhall be driven from Light to Darkneſs, and chaſed out of the World; whoſe Candle ſhall be put out with them, and the ſparks of their Fire ſhall not ſhine; whoſe ſteps ſhall be ſtraitned, and their own Counſels ſhall caſt them down; who ſhall be brought to the King of Terrors, and Brimſtone ſcattered upon their Habitation*, Job 18. So you may ſee that the Light is precious, inaſmuch as it delivers from all theſe dangers; and *whoſoever comes to Repentance, and ſays, I have ſinned and perverted the thing that is right; the Lord will deliver his Soul from going down into the Pit, and his Life ſhall ſee the Light; and ſuch ſhall be enlightned with the Light of the Living*, Job 33. 27, 28, 30. And *David* ſpoke of it, ſaying, *Lord, ſend out thy Light and thy Truth; let them lead me to thy holy Hill, to the Altar of God*: and in this Light *David* beheld the Dwelling-place of God's People throughout all Generations, *Pſal.* 90. 1, 2. *Pſal.* 36. 9. *Pſal.* 23.

Pſal. 23. 2, 3, 4. And *Solomon* declared of the Light, who was indued with a large Gift of the Wiſdom of God, which Wiſdom was before the World, or ever the Mountains were ſettled, or the Hills brought forth; when there were no Depths, and when there were no Fountains abounding with Water. And this is Chriſt the Power and Wiſdom of God, who was poſſeſſed with God's Glory in the beginning of his Way, before his Works of Old: This is that Antient Wiſdom, which was the Guide of all the Faithful from the beginning; and its way is a clean way, out of all Darkneſs, in purity and cleanneſs; and this is the Path of the Righteous, *that ſhines more & more as a ſhining light unto the Perfect day*, Prov. 4. 18. And *Iſaiah* the Prophet was firſt convinced by the glory of *God*, which was that which let him ſee the undone eſtate of himſelf, and the uncleanneſs of the people in his day; and by means of the appearance of God his Iniquity was purged, and his ſin was taken away, and he became a learned Man in the Myſteries of God's Kingdom, and propheſied largely of Chriſt, both of his Sufferings and Death, and of the Glory that ſhould follow; and how the *Gentiles* ſhould be viſited with the Covenant of God, ſaying, *I will give him for a Covenant to the People, for a Light to the* Gentiles, *that he may be my Salvation to the ends of the Earth*, Iſa. 49. 6, 8. Iſa. 53. Chap. 29. 13. Chap. 1. 15. [Mark] The Light is God's Gift, by which Mankind to the Ends of the Earth muſt be ſaved; and ſo all that oppoſe and villifie the Light, they oppoſe and villifie the Covenant of God; Therefore ceaſe, all ye Oppoſers of it, do not hate the Gift which God hath given you for to ſave your Souls, leſt you dye in your ſins, for the Spirit of Chriſt was in the Prophets, from which the Scriptures were written; and people muſt come to the Spirit of Chriſt again, and believe in his Light in their Hearts, which diſcovers ſin, otherwiſe they cannot read with a true Underſtanding but pervert the Scriptures, *and wreſt them to their own Deſtruction, while they read them with a poluted Spirit, and in the will of the Fleſh; from which the Scriptures did not come, but holy Men of God ſpake as they were moved of the holy Ghoſt*, 1 Pet. 1. 11. 2 Pet. 3. 16. So the Prophets of God

Prov. 8. 22, 23, 24, 25.

preached the Light, and the Apoſtles were ſent to turn people to the Light, and they extolled the excellency of it; they did not ſay, it was Inſufficient, or the Light of a Natural Conſcience, or that the teaching of it was Diabolical Inſinuations, but preach't it to be the Covenant of God, in which is Salvation (for all that believe in it and obey it) to the Ends of the Earth: And this is the root of *David*, the bright and morning Star, which was to ariſe to raign over the *Gentiles*; *Unto him ſhall the* Gentiles *ſeek*, *and his Reſt ſhall be glorious*, Iſa. 11. 20. And in this holy covenant both *Jews* and *Gentiles* come to be reconciled to God and one to another; *and this is* Zions *Glory*, *and now ſhe may ariſe and ſhine*, *and put on her Beautiful Garments*, *for her Light is come*, *and the Glory of God is riſen upon her*, Iſa. 60. 1. Iſa. 52. 1, 2.

And ſo return, and come to the Light of Chriſt, leſt the day of your Viſitation paſs over, as old *Iſraels* did, over whom the ſhadows of the Evening was ſtretched, and whoſe Harveſt was ended, but they were not ſaved nor gathered, *Jer.* 6. 4. And *Daniel* had an excellent Spirit of Light and Underſtanding, who was a true Worſhipper, and the Lord was with him in that perilous Day, when his Life was in danger, becauſe of the Kings Decree, in that Land that was filled with Idolatry, wherein Gods witneſſes were but few, when by the *decree* that was made, none was to offer a Petition to any God or Man but to the King for thirty Dayes; yet *Daniel* prayed in Faithfulneſs unto the Lord, with his Window open towards *Jeruſalem*, as he uſed to do, *Dan.* 5 11. Chap. 6. 10. whoſe Faith gave him Victory over all. And ſo the true ſpiritual Worſhippers, who are true Believers in Chriſt, and are of tender Conſciences (though times be Perilous) have not forſook the aſſembling of themſelves together, as the manner of ſome is, *Heb.* 10. 24, 25. And *Micha* the Prophet ſpake of the Light, *Micha* 7. 9. wherein he ſaw the Righteouſneſs of God: and ſo when people come to believe in the Light, they come to behold the wondrous Works of God, which cannot be known in Darkneſs; and in the Light is the Inheritance of the Saints, which Inheritance is undefiled, which fades not away, reſerved in Heaven for them, *Col.* 1. 12. 1 *Pet.* 1. 4.

1. 4. and Christ preached the Light, who opens blind Eyes, and brings forth of Darkness & of Obscurity, which is the fulfilling of the antient Prophecies, Isa. 29 18. And *John* the *Baptist* preached, saying, *I am not that Light, but I am sent to bear witness of him, that is the true Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the World*, Joh. 1. 6, 7, 8, 9. ver. 23, 29. and *Paul* was smitten to the Ground by this Light, for entertaining such an evil Spirit in his Heart, which led him to hale to Prison both Men and Women for worshipping God, and believing in Christ Jesus, as they were perswaded in their Consciences: And so all that are found in that or any other Sin the Light condemns, & reproves and smites their Consciences, *Act.* 26. 13, 14, 15, 16. And all that are out of the Light, are in Sinful Paths, where there is no true lasting Peace, but all the Joys & Pleasures in the World will be mixt with Misery in the end; and so all must come to this holy Seed, Christ, the Light, which slayes the Enmity; for the sharp Sword goeth out of his Mouth, with which he smites the Nations, and he rides upon the White Horse, and the Armies in Heaven follow him, who is cloathed with a Vesture dipt in Blood, and his Name is called the Word of God, and its he that makes all things now, who is the great Reformer of the Nations, *Rev* 19. 11, 13, 15. *Ephes.* 2. 27. and in his Heavenly Light the Virtue of his Blood is known, which cleanseth from all Sin; and this is a Mystery to the World: *And so if we walk in the Light, as he is in the Light, we have fellowship one with another, and the Blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all Sin.* And this is the antient Message which the holy Apostles heard of God, and declared it in faithfulness, as they had received it, that *God is Light, and in him is no Darkness at all*, 1 John 1. 6, . And herein is the fellowship of the Saints, where they sit together in Heavenly places, in Christ Jesus, *Ephes* 2. 6. being quickened together into a lively Hope, where they know the one Offering that perfects forever them that are sanctified, whose Sins come to be washt away, and their Garment made White in the Blood of the Lamb; here is forgiveness of sins known, and a new Birth in measure brought forth, in the Regeneration, begotten again by the incorruptible Seed; and this takes delight to serve the Lord,

Lord, and is not weary of well doing, but forsakes all the Pleasures and Vanities of the World, and denys Self, and takes up the Cross daily and follows Christ, and so in the End shall receive the everlasting Kingdom; and this assurance of Gods Love in Christ at the last Day will be more precious to thee then Gold; if thou hast the Lord to stand by thee in the needful time, when the desire of thine Eyes shall fail, and the Keepers of the House tremble, and those that look out at the Windows be darkened, and the Doors be shut up in the Streets, & all the Daughters of Musick shall be brought low: Oh! this will be a troublesome Day unto all the Rebellious, who spend their precious time in Vanity, & seek not unto the Lord: Oh! much better were it for such that they had never a being, *Eccl.* 12. 3, 4, 5, 6. But in this day the Lord will comfort his People, and fill their Hearts with Joy, and their broken Bones shall rejoyce, who are the Children of the Light and of the Day, who live and walk in the Truth; such come to behold the Glory of the Church in dayes past, and the Life and Peace which the true *Christians* were attended with al, who kept their Integrity and Faithfulness to the Lord, whose Testimonies were precious, and to this day are sweet and lovely, in the remembrance of the true *Christians*, whose Faith stands in the Power of God, who are come to the Universal Testimony of Life, and to the Mount *Sion*, and Heavenly *Jerusalem*, and Church of the first Born written in Heaven, and to the Spirits of Just and Perfect men, and to Jesus the Mediator of the new Covenant, and to the Blood of Sprinkling, that speaks better things then that of *Abel*, *Heb.* 12. 13, 14, 15. whom God hath gathered by his Eternal Arm out of the World, that is overspread with Darkness and Wickedness, wherein the Dragon hath had his way, who hath kept People in a dark Carnal Security, & the Watch-men of this dark Night have kept a very profound Sleep, who have lost the Vision of the things pertaining to everlasting Life; and so are like them of Old, who were blind Leaders of the Blind, and to this day their Eye-lids are heavy, they cannot look up to behold the Day-spring of the unspeakable love of God from on high, which through his tender mercy hath visited this Generation, neither do People, that are in the Night of Darkness,

Darkneſs, believe the Glorious Goſpel of Gods Kingdom, *which is the Power of God unto Salvation, unto all them that believe in it, wherein the Righteouſneſs of God is revealed from Faith to Faith*, Rom. 1. 16, 17. And the Light of this Glorious Goſpel ſhines within, its a Light unto the Feet of the Righteous, as Gods Word was unto *David* in his Day, which Word was in his Heart, and whereby a Young-man's Way might be cleanſed, as he did take heed unto it, *Pſal.* 119. 9. And its the God of the World that blinds the Minds of the Unbelievers, leſt the Light of the Glorious Goſpel of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt ſhould ſhine within them, 2 Cor. 4 3, 4, 5. And all that are out of the Light of this holy Goſpel (viz.) the Power of God, are following the Thoughts and Imaginations of their Evil Hearts, & ſo are grieving the Lord from time to time, and raiſing Sinful Doctrines, and ſetting forth ſomething in Words, that's fair upon the out-ſide, like the Whores Cup; as thoſe in the dayes of Old, that kindled a Fire, and walked in the Light of their own Sparks; *But this is that they ſhall have of my Hand (ſaith the Lord) they ſhall lie down in Sorrow*, Iſa. 50. 11. *Pſal.* 119. 105.

And ſo, much more might be ſaid concerning this Glorious Light of Chriſt, into which all Nations ſhall be gathered in the Diſpenſation of time, and the Kingdoms of this World ſhall become the Lord's, and his Chriſt's, and he ſhall Reign for evermore, and the Dragon with the Beaſt and falſe Prophet, muſt be taken and caſt into the Lake of Fire burning with Brimſtone, *Rev.* 20. 10. and the great Whore that hath corrupted the Earth with her Witch-crafts & Sorceries, of whoſe Cup of Fornications all Nations have drunk, in whom is found the Blood of the Saints and Martyrs of Jeſus, ſhe muſt be overthrown, and ſink under the Indignation of the Almighty forever, *Rev.* 18. 21. And ſo this glorious appearance of the Son of God, which is a ſplendor of that incomprehenſible Light, which comes forth out of the Womb of Immortal Glory, out of the Treaſury of the Riches of Gods love, ſhall never end; for its the Churches Glory, *and her Sun ſhall go down no more, the Lord is become her everlaſting Light, and her God her Glory*, Iſa. 60. 19, 20. And this is cauſe of Joy to the true Believers, who are Members of that Holy Church,

Church, of which Christ is Head, who have none in Heaven but the Lord, nor any in the Earth in comparison of him, whose Eternal Love fills their Hearts, which brings to an end the dayes of Sorrow; so that they are perswaded *neither Tribulation, nor Distresses, nor Peril, nor Sword, nor Cold, nor Nakedness, nor Heights, nor Depth, nor Principalities, nor Powers, nor things present, nor things to come shall be able to seperate them from the love of God they have in Christ Jesus*, Rom. 8. 35, 36. Whose powerful Voice hath raised many that were in the Sleep of Death, that hath passed over all men because of Sin; for since by Man came Death, by Man also came the Resurrection of the Dead; *and as in* Adam *all dyed, so in Christ shall all be made alive*: and its he that quickens by his Light and Spirit out of Sin and Death, wherein the Souls of People dye from the injoyment of Gods presence. I say its Christ Jesus that quickens unto a lively Hope of Eternal Life, who ascended up on high, and led Captivity Captive, and gave Gifts to men, wherefore he saith, *Awake thou that sleepest, arise from the Dead and Christ shall give thee Light*, Ephes. 5. 14. Chap. 4. 8. whose Light and Spirit remain according to the appointment of the Father, in and with the Sons and Daughters of men, either to Justification or Condemnation, who is gathering a People to himself in this his day, *and bringing his Sons from far, & his Daughters from the Ends of the Earth*, Isa. 43. 6 to sit down together in a quiet Habitation in the Covenant of Light & Life, where all the Promises of God in Christ unto his people are Yea and Amen 2 *Cor.* 1. 20. And this Heavenly Day was propheſied of by the Prophets of Old, who had a Vision of the Glory of the last days, and the Spirit of Christ was in them; and this was their stay and support in all Ages, who was afflicted with his People in all their Afflictions, who went with them, and the Angel of his presence saved them, *Isa.* 63. 9. And this was the Foundation of the true Church from the beginning, and *Abraham* by the same Word & Spirit was called out of his Fathers House, who travil'd as a Stranger in the Land of Promise, going back to his Country no more, but dwelling in Tabernacles with *Isaac* and *Jacob*, who were Heirs with him of the same Promise, and they that

1 *Cor.* 15. 21, 22.

do

do ſuch things, who forſake the World and all its Glory, for the Lords ſake, they declare plainly that they ſeek another Habitation; ſo here we have no continuing City, but we ſeek one to come, a City that hath Foundations, whoſe Builder and Maker is God, *Heb.* 11. 8, 9, 10. And ſo Chriſt, the Seed, which was promiſed unto *Abraham*, is the Bleſſing unto all Nations, whoſe Kingdom is everlaſting, and of the increaſe of his Government and Peace there ſhall be no end, *Iſa.* 9. 7. and this is the one Foundation which changes not, who is from Everlaſting to Everlaſting, which gave a Heavenly underſtanding to his Servants of Old, whereby they ſaw the wondrous Works of God; as *Daniel* beheld in the Light and Spirit of the Lord, till the Power of Darkneſs was deſtroyed, and till the Thrones were caſt down, and the Beaſts Dominion taken away, and the Ancient of Dayes came, and gave Judgment to the Saints; and the Time came that the Saints of the Moſt High poſſeſt the Kingdom; and this *Daniel* ſaw even to the perpetual Deſtruction of the Devils Kingdom, who ſaw the coming of the *Meſſiah*, and how he was to make an end of Sin, and bring in Everlaſting Righteouſneſs; and this is Chriſt's Kingdom, which ſtands not in Meats and Drinks, but in Righteouſneſs, and Peace, and Joy in the holy Ghoſt, and that all Kingdoms and Dominions muſt ſerve and obey him, *Dan.* 9. 18, 27. *Iſa.* 9. 6, 7. And this was the ſame in all the Prophets, by which they ſaw ſometimes the approaching of Gods Wrath upon the People, before they were carried away into Captivity, and ſometimes the love of God in gathering them, and bringing them again to their own Land. And *Ezekiel* propheſied largely of the love of God, and of the uniting his people together in the laſt Dayes, and that they ſhould no more be divided into two Kingdoms, neither ſhould they be two Peoples; *And I will place my Sanctuary in the midſt of them, ſaith the Lord, and my Tabernacle ſhall be with them*, Ezek. 37. 22, 25, 26, 27. And more clearer was Chriſt beheld in the Apoſtles dayes, as *John* ſaid, *The Word was made Fleſh and dwelt amongſt us, and we beheld his Glory as the only begotten of the Father, full of Grace and Truth*, John 1. 14. Rom. 8. 3. Phil. 2. 6, 7, 8. In whom the Prophecies of

the Scriptures are fulfilled, who bore our Sins in his own Body upon the Tree, who by the Grace of God hath tasted Death for every Man, and is returned into the Glory he had with the Father before the World began, *John* 17. 5. 1 *Pet.* 2. 24. *Heb.* 2. 9. and all the true Apostles and Prophets of Christ, in the clear Gospel times, who were made able Ministers of the New-Testament, not of the Letter, but of the Spirit (preacht) from a certain ground of Experience, what their Hands had handled, and their Eyes had seen, and what they had tasted of the *Word of Life, who preacht the Wisdom of God in a Mystery, which none of the Princes of this World knew*; *for if they had known him*, saith the Apostle, *they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory*, 1 Cor. 1. 23, 24. Col. 1. 26, 27. Heb. 9. 28. 1 Pet. 3. 18, 19. who is the Hope of *Israel*, both of the *Jews* and *Gentiles*, who in his time, will shew himself the only Potentate, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, *Revelations* 17. 14. Chap. 19. 16. *Ephesians* 1. 10. 1 *Timothy* 6. 15, 16. And all that are out of the Light of Christ, are out of the protection of his holy Spirit, and so may fall into the Pit of Misery at unawares; and this Light and Day of Christ doth discover every man's Work of what sort it is, which Day burns as an Oven against all Transgression; and the consuming Fire, which Christ hath kindled in the Earth, is known in the true Believers to burn up Transgression, who comes as a Refiner and Purifier of Silver, *Mal.* 3. 1, 2, 3. John 1. 1.

And by this way he will fan the Nations; for the Lord hath seen the Great Abominations of the people in this Age of the World, and how Darkness and Desolation, as to the Knowledge of the True God, hath gone over all Nations; and before the Day of Perpetual Distress come upon the World, the Lord hath sent forth the Invitation of his Love, to Call all that will come out of *Babylon* to the blessed Appearance of Christ the Light of the World, which was and is, and is to come, into *whose Light the Kings of the Earth, that are saved, must bring their Glory.* So you may see that the Light was held to be more precious than the Glory of Kings, which is the greatest Glory that's upon the Earth and amongst men, the honour of

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Kings is held to be the greateſt Honour; but the Angel of God preached the Light to be more worthy, inaſmuch as *the Kings of the Earth that are ſaved do bring their Glory and Honour into it*, Rev. 21. So the Light was preached by the Prophets, and Chriſt and his Apoſtles, and by the Angel of God in the dayes of *John*. And this is a bleſſed day, wherein the Lord is comforting of his People, and ſpeaking Peace to his choſen Ones, who is raiſing up the Tabernacle of *David*, that was fallen down, according to his Promiſe, *Amos* 9. 11. And *Zion* is ariſing again, and ſhe ſhall flouriſh, *and break forth on the right hand, and on the left hand; the Mouth of the Lord hath ſpoken it*, Iſa. 54. 3. And the Day is come wherein God will perform thoſe things before ſpoken of, and not one jot or tittle ſhall fail; as our Lord ſaid, *Heaven and Earth ſhall paſs away, but my Words ſhall not paſs away till all be fulfilled*, Mat. 24. 35. And *Zions* dead men ſhall live; as its written, *Thy dead men ſhall live together, with my dead body ſhall they riſe; awake and ſing, you that dwell in the duſt, for thy Dew ſhall be as the Dew of Herbs, and the Earth ſhall caſt out her dead*, Iſa. 26. 19. And ſo all that witneſs Redemption, who come to be quickned to God by Chriſt Jeſus out of the Grave of Sin and Death; they are them that are riſen with Chriſt, and come to ſettle their affections on things above, not on things below, but where Chriſt ſitteth at the right hand of God; and theſe *ſeek the Kingdom of Heaven with the Righteouſneſs thereof, above all things*, Col. 3. 1, 2. And theſe can ſing the New ſong before the Throne, with the Harps of God, being redeemed by the bleſſed Saviour of the World from under the Curſe, *Rev.* 15. 2, 3, 4. And they can rejoyce and be glad in him, and they can ſay, *Salvation is come, and Strength is come, and the Kingdom of our God, and the Power of his Chriſt, and he ſhall raign forever and ever*, Rev. 12. 10. whoſe Inviſible Arm of Salvation carries them on from day to day, and great Happineſs doth them; for *he that hath Mercy on them doth feed them; and he that ſits upon the Throne, is in the midſt of them, who leads them to Living Fountains of Waters, and wipes away all Tears from their Eyes*, Rev. 7. 17. Chap. 21. 3, 4. Iſa. 60. 20.

So this is an *Invitation* to all People, that they may return to the Lord, whose Mercies are great, and his Long-suffering very large, who hath long born with Mankind for his Name's sake, although their sins have abounded: but now he is risen, and the Day of Calamity is near, who hath whet his glittering Sword, and his hand hath taken hold of Judgment: Oh! hasten and meet the Lord by true and unfeigned Repentance, that you may be prepared for the Day of Account, while time lasts, for afterwards it will be too late; for God is calling the Nations to Judgment, and the Day of the Great Assembly is at hand, wherein all must appear before the great Judge of Quick and Dead, to render up their Account unto him; and all that come to true Repentance and obey the Call of the Lord, and come out of *Babylon* into obedience to the Truth, and so Fear and Dread the Lord God, and partake not with the great Whore of her Sins, God hath said, *such shall not partake of her Plagues, but such as are Rebellious, and harden their Hearts against the Lord, and continue in their sinful Ways and Abominations of these Times, they must partake of the Plagues of* Babylon; *whose Witch-crafts and Sorceries have deceived all Nations*: And therefore the Great Day of Perplexity is coming upon her; for strong is the Lord that judgeth her; and all that commit Fornication with her, must with those that committed Adultery with *Jesabel* of old, be cast upon a Bed of Torments, and into great Tribulation together. And so Prepare, prepare, for the Day of the Lord is near, which will be a Distressing day unto many, wherein the strong will be as Tow, and strength of the mighty will depart from them, and great Feebleness will overtake them, for the Glory and Haughtiness of man will the Lord abase, and bring low and lay it in the Dust, where the Memory of many shall perish; for the Lord is come and coming to search all Hearts, and to try all the ways and doings of the Children of men; and there is none so separated from him into the greatest Abominations whatsoever, though they may agree, and covenant themselves with Death and Hell, yet his Wrath will find them there, and Everlasting Punishment shall rest upon them;

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If they go down into the bottom of the Sea, there will I command the Serpent, and it ſhall bite them, ſaith the Lord: If they aſcend in their Imaginations as high as the Clouds, thence will I bring them down, Amos 9. 2, 3, 4. O Lord, therefore whither ſhall we fly from thy Preſence, who art come to deſtroy him that hath deſtroyed the Earth, and bewildred and deſolated the Creation, whoſe raging power thou haſt deſtroyed in many, bleſſed be thy Name, who have believed in the Light of thy beloved Son, which ſhines through all the Clouds, and Vailes of the Night of Darkneſs, which leads all that believe in it into the Primitive purity again: Oh! this is thy Unſpeakable Love to them that fear thy great Name, amongſt whom thou haſt planted thy Righteouſneſs, and cauſed Holineſs to bud; and thou art cauſing it to ſpring up in the Earth again, which day many longed to ſee; and Peace doſt thou extend to thy People like a River, according to thy Promiſe, *Iſa.* 66. 12. Therefore let the Living praiſe thee, and ſing of thy Mercies and Judgments, for thou art God, and there is none beſides thee, who haſt brought a People out of Darkneſs into thy marvelous Light: Oh! thou didſt gather us, and we were gathered; thou didſt turn us, O Lord, and we were turned; when we were in the Priſon-Houſe of Darkneſs and Unbelief, thou didſt open the Doors of Obſcurity unto us, and didſt bring us to ſhew our ſelves in a Teſtimony for thee, that we might declare of thy wondrous Works, having ſeen thy goodneſs in the Land of the Living: Oh! thy Mercy was great towards us, that thou didſt not deſtroy us in our ſins, but didſt give us time and a place of Repentance, when our Cry was Day and Night unto thee: Oh! thou didſt give us ſtrength againſt the Adverſary of our Soul's Peace, the great Troubler of the Nations; and now thou haſt brought us to him whom thou haſt ordained to heal the Nations, and eaſe the diſtreſſed and wounded Souls, who is our Lord and Maſter, and our Saviour in the time of Trouble, whoſe precious Blood was ſhed for us, who is become our Hope, and the Rock of our Salvation. This, O Lord, haſt thou done for many in this thy Day, who haſt beheld the Crys of our breathing Souls, not that we were better than others, but for thy Mercies ſake, and of thy

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own free will and good pleasure; and thou dost uphold them, that trust in thee, and fear thy great Name, upon whom thou dost cause the Sun of Righteousness to arise, according to thy Promise, *with healing in his Wings*, Mal. 4. 2. And this is thy Glory and thy Covenant (O Lord) in which thy redeemed walk, though but as Wayfareing men, and as Strangers and Pilgrims upon the Earth, yet thy secret Invisible Power and Word of Life doth instruct them, and the holy anointing that they have received of Christ, their heavenly High-Priest teacheth them of all things that is necessary to Salvation, which is the Truth, and is no Lye, *John* 2. 27. And these commit the keeping of their Souls unto thee, in Well-doing, as to a faithful Creator, who art that God that knows all things, and canst out of thy divine Fulness administer suitably to all States and Conditions of the Children of men; and that thy Mercy and Long-forbearance, O Lord, may be lengthened out to this Generation, that many may come to know the Lord to be one, and his Name one, and that his Power may be known, and his Truth become famous through the World, and all Deceit and Hypocrisie may be rooted out, Is the great Desire and Travail of the Soul of him, who hath known many Spiritual and inward Conflicts, and a Passage through many morning Seasons from year to year; but is now, through the Endless Love and Mercy of God, brought to the Day of Joy and Glad-tidings, having seen the Travail of his Soul and is Satisfied.

RICHARD SAMBLE.

THE END.

Samuel

Samuel

John Freeman